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# WEDNESFIELD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

**1959**



# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR



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E R R A T U M.

Page 1 Line 19 to read "this matter the Council can feel proud of its achievements".

Page 5 Table: "Causes of Death Under One Year in Age Groups 1959. Under heading "Congenital Malformations read: (ii) Central Nervous System.

Page 14 Table: (a) Classification of Deaths from Cancer, Wednesfield U.D.C., 1959.  
There was a total of 3 males under deaths from Cancer of the Respiratory System making a total of 5.

Figure 1 is a line graph with the x-axis labeled 'Number of days of rain' and the y-axis labeled 'Number of days of rain'. Both axes range from 0 to 10 with major tick marks every 1 unit. A series of data points is plotted at every integer coordinate from (0, 0) to (10, 10). These points are connected by a solid black line, representing the identity function  $y = x$ .



# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

## Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR 1959

**To the Chairman and Members of  
Wednesfield Urban District Council**

MR CHAIRMAN, LADY AND GENTLEMEN,

I have great pleasure in presenting to you my Report on the Health of the Urban District for year ended 31st December, 1959. My pleasure is accentuated by the fact that this is my first Annual Report to the Council; I trust, therefore, my remarks are acceptable.

The report shows a departure from those which have been compiled in the last few years. Statistics, Causes of Death, Personal Health Services are itemized under Section headings ; rather than burden you with a volume of items at the commencement of the report.

Much work has been accomplished during the past year and the Slum Clearance Programme has, in particular gained impetus ; in this matter can the Council feel proud of its achievements.

I would like to thank all the Members and Chairman of the Public Health Committee whose encouragement and support are never failing and the staff of the Health Department whose co-operation I esteem and value highly. My gratitude is extended also to all the Officers and members and Chairman of the Council for their help in the Department activities.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

PETER J. C. WALKER,

*Medical Officer of Health.*

## OFFICERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

---

*Chairman, Public Health Committee, Wednesfield U.D.C.*

COUNCILLOR H. P. FITZMAURICE.

*Vice-Chairman :*

COUNCILLOR MRS. J. WHISTON.

*Medical Officer of Health :*

J. V. L. FARQUHAR, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

(22.9.58—31.8.59)

*Medical Officer of Health, School Medical Officer, and Asst. County*

*Medical Officer of Health :*

P. J. C. WALKER, M.B., Ch.B., (U.BIRM.), M.R.C.S., (LOND.),  
L.R.C.P., D.P.H., (U. LOND.), (Appointed 4.1.60).

*Chief Public Health Inspector :*

P. H. G. GRIMMETT, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

*Additional Public Health Inspector :*

A. L. MORGAN, M.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.H.

*Pupil Public Health Inspector :*

A. G. WILLIAMS.

*Shorthand-Typists :*

MRS. M. L. CARROLL and MRS. S. D. DEANS.

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### DESCRIPTION OF THE URBAN DISTRICT

|                        |                            |
|------------------------|----------------------------|
| Area :                 | 2,515 Acres.               |
| Estimated Population : | 29,620.                    |
| Rateable Value :       | £325,152 (December, 1959). |
| General Rate :         | 19s. 10d. in £1.           |
| Penny Rate :           | £1,219.                    |

I am indebted to the Rating Department for the following information :

|  |       |       |
|--|-------|-------|
| Total Number of Houses on Rate Book (1st June, 1959) | ..... | 8,731 |
| „ „ „ and Surgeries                                  | ..... | 12    |
| „ „ „ and Shops                                      | ..... | 122   |
| „ „ Separate Offices                                 | ..... | 15    |
| „ „ Workshops  | ..... | 50    |
| „ „ Licensed Premises                                | ..... | 23    |

The District is bounded on its Northern Aspect by Cannock Rural District ; on the North Western and South Western sides by the County Borough of Wolverhampton and on the South East, East and North East by Willenhall Urban District.

The Elevation is considerably higher than the majority of its environs and is about 500 ft. above sea level.

The inhabitants are engaged in a variety of trades which represent a typical cross-section of the Black Country community, i.e. iron and steel workers, foundry workers, coal miners, etc. Occupations more peculiar to the district include keysmiths, locksmiths and steel trap makers.

The general health in the population is satisfactory.

SECTION A—VITAL STATISTICS

(Figures in Parenthesis indicate 1958 Statistics)

“All economical and practical wisdom is an extension or variation of the following arithmetic formula 2 + 2 = 4”—*Oliver Wendal Holmes*.

|                                    |   |      |         |        |       |       |         |  |  |
|------------------------------------|---|------|---------|--------|-------|-------|---------|--|--|
| 1. Live Births and Live Birth Rate |   |      |         |        |       |       |         |  |  |
| (a)                                | Legitimate Births   | Male | 365     | Female | 313   |       |         |  |  |
| (b)                                | Illegitimate Births   | Male | 8       | Female | 12    |       |         |  |  |
|                                    | Illegitimate Births as a Percentage of Live Births .....  |      |         |        |       | 2.91  | (3.02)  |  |  |
|                                    | Crude Birth Rate 1,000 per population .....   |      |         |        |       | 23.7  | (24.40) |  |  |
|                                    | Corrected Birth Rate 1,000 per population .....   |      |         |        |       | 20.15 | (20.95) |  |  |
|                                    | (Comparability Factor for Births .....  |      |         |        |       | 0.85) |         |  |  |
| 2. Stillbirths                     |   |      |         |        |       |       |         |  |  |
| (a)                                | Legitimate Stillbirths  | Male | 9       | Female | 9     |       |         |  |  |
| (b)                                | Illegitimate Stillbirths  | Male | 6       | Female | 2     |       |         |  |  |
|                                    | Total Number of Live and Stillbirths .....  |      |         |        |       | 718   | (697)   |  |  |
|                                    | Stillbirth Rate 1,000 Live and Stillbirths .....  |      |         |        |       | 27.8  | (21.1)  |  |  |
| 3. Infant Mortality                |   |      |         |        |       |       |         |  |  |
| (i)                                | Infant Deaths under One Year of age   |      |         |        |       |       |         |  |  |
| (a)                                | Legitimate  | Male | 13      | Female | 7     |       |         |  |  |
| (b)                                | Illegitimate  | Male | 1       | Female | 1     |       |         |  |  |
|                                    | Total Infant Deaths under One Year of age .....   |      |         |        |       | 22    | (16)    |  |  |
| (ii)                               | Infant Mortality Rates  |      |         |        |       |       |         |  |  |
| (a)                                | Total Infants Deaths per 1,000 Live Births .....  |      |         |        |       | 31.5  | (22.95) |  |  |
| (b)                                | Legitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 Legitimate Births .....  |      |         |        |       | 29.5  | (22.95) |  |  |
| (c)                                | Illegitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 Illegitimate Births .....  |      |         |        |       | 100.0 | (0.00)  |  |  |
| (d)                                | Neonatal Mortality Rate (Deaths under 4 weeks 1,000 Total Live Births .....                                       |      |         |        |       | 28.7  | (21.13) |  |  |
| (e)                                | Early Neonatal Mortality Rate (Deaths under 1 week 1,000 Total Live Births .....                                  |      |         |        |       | 21.5  | (15.87) |  |  |
| (f)                                | Perinatal Mortality Rate (Stillbirths and Deaths under 1 week Combined per 1,000 Total Live and Stillbirths ..... |      |         |        |       | 48.7  | (36.51) |  |  |
| 4. Maternal Mortality              |   |      |         |        |       |       |         |  |  |
|                                    | Number of Deaths .....  |      |         |        |       | 0     |         |  |  |
|                                    | Maternal Mortality per 1,000 Total Live and Stillbirths .....   |      |         |        |       | 0.00  | (0.00)  |  |  |
| 5. Deaths (All Causes)             |   |      |         |        |       |       |         |  |  |
|                                    | Males   | 125  | Females | 97     | Total | 222   |         |  |  |
|                                    | Crude Death Rate 1,000 per population .....   |      |         |        |       | 7.49  |         |  |  |
|                                    | Comparability Factor for Deaths .....   |      |         |        |       | 1.81  |         |  |  |
|                                    | Corrected Death Rate .....  |      |         |        |       | 13.6  | (7.05)  |  |  |

## **Analysis and Notes on the Vital Statistics**

### **1. Population**

The Population of Wednesfield as estimated by the Registrar General was 29,620 in June, 1959.

This represents an increase of 1,120 in comparison with a similar mid-year estimate 28,500 for 1958. The increase is made up of a natural increase due to the balance of births over deaths and a migratory increase due to the re-housing under the overspill scheme.

### **2. Births**

During the year under appreciation there were 698 live births in the District. Illegitimate births were 2.91% of all these or 1 in 32 births were illegitimate.

The stillbirth rate shows an unwelcome increase over last year being 27.8 per 1,000 live and stillbirths.

### **3. Infant Mortality**

I append on page 5, a detailed table showing the causes of death in children under the age of one year for 1959.

It is worthy to note that by far the greater number of deaths occur, in this category, at or during the first week of life. This is shown in the above statistics by the Early Neonatal Death Rate which was 21.5 per 1,000 total live births.

The high mortality of illegitimately born children is shown by the illegitimate deaths of illegitimate births which, in this case was 100/1,000 such births. Contributory factors to such a high rate are the lack of adequate antenatal supervision due to the social stigma of having such a child and the social circumstances into which these children are born, i.e. overcrowded or ill-managed homes.



# CAUSES OF DEATH UNDER ONE YEAR IN AGE GROUPS

Year 1959

| CAUSES OF DEATH   | Under<br>1 week  | 1-2<br>weeks     | 2-3<br>weeks     | 3-4<br>weeks     | Total<br>Under<br>4 weeks | 4 weeks<br>and<br>Under<br>3 months | 3 months<br>and<br>Under<br>6 months | 6 months<br>and<br>Under<br>9 months | 9 months<br>and<br>Under<br>12 m'ths. | Total<br>1958/1959 |
|---|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Scarlet Fever .....   | —                | —                | —                | —                | —                         | —                                   | —                                    | —                                    | —                                     | —                  |
| Whooping Cough .....  | —                | —                | —                | —                | —                         | —                                   | —                                    | —                                    | —                                     | —                  |
| Diphtheria .....  | —                | —                | —                | —                | —                         | —                                   | —                                    | —                                    | —                                     | —                  |
| Tuberculosis of the<br>Respiratory System .....   | —                | —                | —                | —                | —                         | —                                   | —                                    | —                                    | —                                     | —                  |
| All Other forms of<br>Tuberculosis .....  | —                | —                | —                | —                | —                         | —                                   | —                                    | —                                    | —                                     | —                  |
| Asphyxia .....  | —                | —                | —                | —                | —                         | —                                   | —                                    | —                                    | —                                     | 1                  |
| Measles .....   | —                | —                | —                | —                | —                         | —                                   | —                                    | —                                    | —                                     | —                  |
| Congenital Malformations<br>(i) Cardiovascular Syst.<br>(ii) Central Nervous Syst.<br>(iii) Alimentary Canal<br>(iv) Others ..... | 2<br>2<br>—<br>1 | —<br>—<br>—<br>1 | 1<br>—<br>—<br>— | —<br>—<br>—<br>— | —<br>—<br>—<br>—          | —<br>—<br>—<br>—                    | —<br>—<br>—<br>—                     | —<br>—<br>—<br>—                     | —<br>—<br>—<br>—                      | 1<br>2<br>1<br>1   |
| Pneumonia and Bronchitis<br>Cerebral Haemorrhage .....  | 5<br>2           | 1<br>—           | —<br>—           | —<br>—           | —<br>—                    | —<br>—                              | 2<br>—                               | —<br>—                               | 1<br>—                                | 5<br>1             |
| Neoplastic Disease<br>Accidental Death .....  | —<br>—           | —<br>—           | —<br>—           | —<br>—           | —<br>—                    | —<br>—                              | —<br>—                               | —<br>—                               | —<br>—                                | 1<br>—             |
| Prematurity .....   | 3                | 1                | —                | —                | —                         | —                                   | —                                    | —                                    | —                                     | 4                  |
| TOTAL   | 15               | 3                | 1                | —                | —                         | —                                   | 2                                    | —                                    | 1                                     | 24                 |
|   |                  |                  |                  |                  |                           |                                     |                                      |                                      |                                       | 17                 |

#### 4. **Maternal Mortality**

It is again pleasing to record no maternal deaths in the District.

#### 5. **Deaths**

Again this year I have included a detailed analysis of the causes of death in Wednesfield Urban District under the following headings:

- (a) Causes of death by Sex.
- (b) Causes of death by Age Groups.

The principal causes of death during the year were, in order of frequency :

- (a) Vascular Lesions of the Central Nervous System (40 cases)
- (b) Coronary Arterial Disease (37 cases)
- (c) Malignant Disease (all forms) (36 cases).

It will be noted that both Vascular Lesions of the Central Nervous System and Coronary Arterial Disease show a male sex-preponderance. Deaths from Cancer of the Lung show a slight rise over 1958 being 16.5% of all Cancer Deaths.

(a) Causes of Death, Classified by Sex, 1959, Wednesfield U.D.C.

| CAUSES OF DEATH   | 1955         |    | 1953         |    | 1957          |    | 1958          |    | 1959          |    |
|---|--------------|----|--------------|----|---------------|----|---------------|----|---------------|----|
|   | M.           | F. | M.           | F. | M.            | F. | M.            | F. | M.            | F. |
| All Causes  | 88—82<br>170 |    | 96—68<br>164 |    | 102—78<br>180 |    | 109—92<br>201 |    | 141—81<br>222 |    |
| Enteric Fever .....   | —            | —  | —            | —  | —             | —  | —             | —  | —             | —  |
| Small Pox .....   | —            | —  | —            | —  | —             | —  | —             | —  | —             | —  |
| Measles .....   | —            | —  | —            | —  | —             | —  | —             | —  | —             | —  |
| Scarlet Fever .....   | —            | —  | —            | —  | —             | —  | —             | —  | —             | —  |
| Whooping Cough .....  | —            | —  | —            | 1  | —             | —  | —             | —  | —             | —  |
| Diphtheria .....  | —            | —  | —            | —  | —             | —  | —             | —  | —             | —  |
| Influenza .....   | —            | 2  | —            | —  | 4             | 4  | —             | 1  | —             | —  |
| Syphilitic Disease .....  | 1            | —  | —            | —  | —             | —  | —             | —  | —             | —  |
| Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases .....                    | —            | —  | —            | —  | —             | —  | —             | —  | 1             | —  |
| Meningococcal Meningitis .....                                  | —            | —  | —            | —  | —             | —  | —             | —  | —             | 1  |
| Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System .....                    | 1            | —  | 1            | 1  | —             | —  | 1             | 1  | —             | —  |
| Other Forms .....   | —            | —  | 1            | —  | 1             | —  | —             | —  | —             | —  |
| Neoplastic Disease .....  | 21           | 18 | 18           | 8  | 25            | 15 | 17            | 13 | 18            | 18 |
| Coronary Artery Disease .....                                   | 11           | 12 | 10           | 7  | 18            | 10 | 17            | 7  | 24            | 12 |
| Hypertension with Heart Disease .....                           | 2            | 3  | 2            | 3  | 2             | 1  | 1             | 5  | 7             | 3  |
| Other Heart Disease .....                                       | 8            | 3  | 12           | 7  | 3             | 11 | 9             | 17 | 14            | 8  |
| Other Circulatory Diseases .....                                | 1            | 2  | 4            | 3  | 1             | 2  | 2             | 4  | 3             | 2  |
| Cerebral Haemorrhage .....                                      | 8            | 12 | 5            | 9  | 10            | 11 | 17            | 11 | 28            | 12 |
| Diabetes .....  | 1            | 2  | —            | —  | —             | 3  | —             | —  | —             | —  |
| Bronchitis .....  | 4            | 6  | 8            | 5  | 6             | 2  | 10            | 5  | 5             | 5  |
| Pneumonia, all forms .....                                      | 6            | 1  | 5            | 2  | 6             | 3  | 4             | 9  | 4             | 1  |
| Other Respiratory Diseases .....                                | —            | —  | 1            | 1  | 1             | 1  | 1             | 1  | 19            | 3  |
| Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum .....                              | 3            | —  | 1            | 2  | 1             | —  | 1             | —  | —             | 1  |
| Gastritis, Enteritis .....                                      | 3            | 3  | —            | —  | 1             | —  | 1             | 1  | 1             | 2  |
| Prostatic Hyperplasia .....                                     | —            | —  | —            | —  | 1             | 1  | 1             | 1  | 4             | 1  |
| Cirrhosis of Liver .....  | 1            | 1  | —            | 1  | 1             | 2  | —             | —  | —             | —  |
| Acute and Chronic Nephritis .....                               | —            | —  | —            | —  | —             | —  | —             | —  | —             | —  |
| Puerperal Sepsis .....  | —            | —  | —            | —  | —             | —  | —             | —  | 1             | —  |
| Other Diseases and accidents of Pregnancy and Parturition ..... | —            | —  | —            | —  | —             | —  | —             | —  | —             | —  |
| Congenital Debility and Malformation .....                      | 2            | —  | —            | 1  | 3             | 2  | 4             | 2  | —             | 1  |
| Motor Vehicle Accidents .....                                   | 1            | —  | 1            | —  | —             | —  | 3             | 2  | 1             | 1  |
| All Other Accidents .....                                       | —            | 1  | 2            | 2  | 1             | —  | 3             | 1  | 2             | 3  |
| Suicide .....   | 2            | 2  | 3            | 5  | 4             | 3  | 3             | 1  | 3             | 2  |
| Homicide .....  | —            | —  | —            | —  | —             | —  | —             | —  | 1             | 1  |
| Other Defined and Ill-defined Causes of Death .....             | 12           | 14 | 20           | 9  | 10            | 8  | 13            | 10 | 10            | 5  |
| Estimated Population .....                                      | 22,170       |    | 24,355       |    | 26,450        |    | 28,500        |    | 29,620        |    |
| Total Deaths .....  | 170          |    | 164          |    | 180           |    | 201           |    | 222           |    |
| Crude Death Rate .....  | 7.67         |    | 6.91         |    | 6.80          |    | 5.79          |    | 7.49          |    |

## (b) Causes of Death in Age Groups

| Short list of causes of Death<br>in use in England and Wales | under<br>4<br>weeks | 4<br>weeks<br>and<br>under<br>1<br>year | 1<br>and<br>under<br>2<br>years | 2<br>and<br>under<br>3<br>Years | 3<br>and<br>under<br>4<br>years | 4<br>and<br>under<br>5<br>years | 5<br>and<br>under<br>10<br>years | 10<br>and<br>under<br>15<br>years | 15<br>and<br>under<br>20<br>years |
|--|---------------------|---|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| All causes .....   |                     |   |                                 |                                 |                                 |                                 |                                  |                                   |                                   |
| 1. Tuberculosis .....  | —                   | —                                       | —                               | —                               | —                               | —                               | —                                | —                                 | —                                 |
| 2. Tuberculosis, other .....                                 | —                   | —                                       | —                               | —                               | —                               | —                               | —                                | —                                 | —                                 |
| 3. Syphilitic Disease.....                                   | —                   | —                                       | —                               | —                               | —                               | —                               | —                                | —                                 | —                                 |
| 4. Diphtheria.....   | —                   | —                                       | —                               | —                               | —                               | —                               | —                                | —                                 | —                                 |
| 5. Whooping Cough .....                                      | —                   | —                                       | —                               | —                               | —                               | —                               | —                                | —                                 | —                                 |
| 6. Meningococcal Infections .....                            | —                   | —                                       | —                               | —                               | —                               | —                               | 1                                | —                                 | —                                 |
| 7. Acute Poliomyelitis .....                                 | —                   | —                                       | —                               | —                               | —                               | —                               | —                                | —                                 | —                                 |
| 8. Measles .....   | —                   | —                                       | —                               | —                               | —                               | —                               | —                                | —                                 | —                                 |
| 9. Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases .....              | —                   | —                                       | —                               | —                               | —                               | —                               | 1                                | —                                 | —                                 |
| 10. Malignant Neoplasm stomach .....                         | —                   | —                                       | —                               | —                               | —                               | —                               | —                                | —                                 | —                                 |
| 11. Malignant Neoplasm lung, bronchus .....                  | —                   | —                                       | —                               | —                               | —                               | —                               | —                                | —                                 | —                                 |
| 12. Malignant Neoplasm breast .....                          | —                   | —                                       | —                               | —                               | —                               | —                               | —                                | —                                 | —                                 |
| 13. Malignant Neoplasm Uterus .....                          | —                   | —                                       | —                               | —                               | —                               | —                               | —                                | —                                 | —                                 |
| 14. Other Malignant and Lymphatic<br>Neoplasms .....         | —                   | —                                       | —                               | —                               | —                               | —                               | —                                | —                                 | —                                 |
| 15. Leukemia, Aleukemia .....                                | —                   | —                                       | —                               | —                               | —                               | —                               | —                                | —                                 | —                                 |
| 16. Diabetes .....   | —                   | —                                       | —                               | —                               | —                               | —                               | —                                | —                                 | —                                 |
| 17. Coronary Disease, Angina .....                           | —                   | —                                       | —                               | —                               | —                               | —                               | —                                | —                                 | —                                 |
| 18. Hypertension with Heart Disease .....                    | —                   | —                                       | —                               | —                               | —                               | —                               | —                                | —                                 | —                                 |
| 19. Other Heart Disease .....                                | 2                   | —                                       | —                               | —                               | —                               | —                               | —                                | —                                 | —                                 |
| 20. Other circulatory Disease .....                          | 1                   | —                                       | —                               | —                               | —                               | —                               | —                                | —                                 | 1                                 |
| 21. Influenza .....  | —                   | —                                       | —                               | —                               | —                               | —                               | —                                | —                                 | —                                 |
| 22. Pneumonia .....  | 1                   | —                                       | —                               | —                               | —                               | 1                               | —                                | —                                 | 1                                 |
| 23. Bronchitis .....   | 1                   | 1                                       | —                               | —                               | —                               | —                               | —                                | —                                 | —                                 |
| 24. Other Disease of Respiratory System .....                | 6                   | 1                                       | 2                               | 1                               | —                               | —                               | —                                | —                                 | —                                 |
| 25. Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum .....                      | —                   | —                                       | —                               | —                               | —                               | —                               | —                                | —                                 | —                                 |
| 26. Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea .....                 | 2                   | 1                                       | —                               | —                               | —                               | —                               | —                                | —                                 | —                                 |
| 27. Nephritis and Nephrosis .....                            | —                   | —                                       | —                               | —                               | —                               | —                               | —                                | —                                 | —                                 |
| 28. Hyperplasia of Prostate .....                            | —                   | —                                       | —                               | —                               | —                               | —                               | —                                | —                                 | —                                 |
| 29. Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion .....                    | —                   | —                                       | —                               | —                               | —                               | —                               | —                                | —                                 | —                                 |
| 30. Congenital Malformations .....                           | 1                   | —                                       | —                               | —                               | —                               | —                               | —                                | —                                 | —                                 |
| 31. Other Defined and Ill-defined Diseases .....             | 3                   | —                                       | —                               | —                               | —                               | —                               | —                                | —                                 | 1                                 |
| 32. Motor Vehicle Accidents .....                            | —                   | —                                       | —                               | —                               | —                               | —                               | —                                | —                                 | —                                 |
| 33. All Other Accidents .....                                | —                   | —                                       | —                               | 1                               | —                               | —                               | —                                | —                                 | —                                 |
| 34. Vascular Lesions of Nervous System .....                 | 3                   | —                                       | —                               | —                               | —                               | —                               | —                                | —                                 | —                                 |
| 35. Suicide .....  | —                   | —                                       | —                               | —                               | —                               | —                               | —                                | —                                 | 1                                 |
| 36. Homicide and Operations of War .....                     | —                   | —                                       | —                               | —                               | —                               | —                               | —                                | —                                 | —                                 |



in Wednesfield Urban District, 1959

| 20<br>and<br>under<br>25<br>years | 25<br>and<br>under<br>30<br>years | 30<br>and<br>under<br>35<br>years | 35<br>and<br>under<br>40<br>years | 40<br>and<br>under<br>45<br>years | 45<br>and<br>under<br>50<br>years | 50<br>and<br>under<br>55<br>years | 55<br>and<br>under<br>60<br>years | 60<br>and<br>under<br>65<br>years | 65<br>and<br>under<br>70<br>years | 70<br>and<br>under<br>75<br>years | 75<br>and<br>up-<br>wards | Total |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|-------|
| —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                         | —     |
| —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                         | —     |
| —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                         | —     |
| —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                         | —     |
| —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                         | —     |
| —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                         | 1     |
| —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                         | —     |
| —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                         | —     |
| —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                         | 1     |
| —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | 1                                 | 1                                 | —                                 | 1                                 | 1                                 | 1                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                         | 5     |
| —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | 1                                 | 3                                 | 2                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                         | 6     |
| —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | 1                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | 1                                 | —                         | 2     |
| —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | 1                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                         | 1     |
| —                                 | —                                 | 2                                 | 2                                 | —                                 | 2                                 | 3                                 | 4                                 | 2                                 | 3                                 | —                                 | 4                         | 22    |
| —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | 2                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                         | 2     |
| —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                         | —     |
| —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | 2                                 | 4                                 | 6                                 | 3                                 | 3                                 | 4                                 | 9                                 | 6                         | 37    |
| —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | 1                                 | 1                                 | 4                                 | 4                         | 10    |
| 1                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | 2                                 | —                                 | 3                                 | 2                                 | 2                                 | 4                                 | 8                         | 22    |
| —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | 2                                 | 1                                 | —                                 | —                         | 5     |
| —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                         | —     |
| —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | 1                                 | —                                 | —                                 | 1                                 | —                         | 5     |
| —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | 1                                 | 1                                 | 1                                 | 1                                 | —                                 | 4                         | 10    |
| —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | 2                                 | 1                                 | 1                                 | 1                                 | 2                                 | 5                         | 22    |
| —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | 1                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                         | 1     |
| —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                         | 3     |
| —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                         | —     |
| —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                         | —     |
| —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                         | —     |
| —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                         | —     |
| —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | 1                                 | 2                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | 2                                 | 1                                 | 5                         | 15    |
| —                                 | 1                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | 1                                 | —                         | 2     |
| 1                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | 1                                 | —                                 | 1                                 | —                                 | —                                 | 1                                 | —                                 | —                         | 5     |
| —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | 1                                 | 1                                 | 2                                 | 4                                 | 6                                 | 4                                 | 19                        | 40    |
| 1                                 | —                                 | —                                 | 1                                 | —                                 | —                                 | 1                                 | 1                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                         | 5     |
| —                                 | 1                                 | —                                 | —                                 | 1                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | —                         | 2     |

## SECTION B—INFECTIOUS DISEASES

*“Mens sana in corpore sano”*

The prevalence and control of infectious disease is an indicator of health and prevalent social conditions in the District. This particularly applies to tuberculosis whose incidence is a delicate pointer to the social index.

The total number of notifications of infectious disease in the District for the year 1959 was 776, which compares with 184 in 1958; an increase of 592 notifications.

I append on opposite page, a detailed table of the incidence infective of diseases notified by age group in 1959.

# CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING 1959

| DISEASES                               | FINAL NUMBERS AFTER CORRECTION |         |        |         |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |            | Total Cases Admitted to Hospital |
|--|--------------------------------|---------|--------|---------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|------------|----------------------------------|
|  | AGE PERIODS—YEARS              |         |        |         |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |            |                                  |
|  | All Ages                       | Under 1 | 1 to 5 | 5 to 10 | 10 to 15 | 15 to 20 | 20 to 25 | 25 to 35 | 35 to 45 | 45 to 55 | 55 to 65 | 65 upwards |                                  |
| Diphtheria, including Membranous Croup | —                              | —       | —      | —       | —        | —        | —        | —        | —        | —        | —        | —          | —                                |
| Erysipelas                             | 3                              | —       | —      | —       | —        | —        | —        | —        | 2        | —        | —        | 1          | —                                |
| Scarlet Fever                          | 14                             | —       | —      | —       | —        | —        | —        | —        | —        | —        | —        | —          | —                                |
| Ophthalmia                             | 1                              | 1       | 4      | 8       | —        | —        | —        | —        | —        | —        | —        | —          | —                                |
| Pulmonary Tuberculosis                 | 12                             | —       | —      | —       | 2        | 1        | 1        | 1        | 3        | 2        | —        | 1          | —                                |
| Other Forms                            | 3                              | —       | —      | —       | —        | —        | —        | —        | —        | —        | —        | —          | —                                |
| Puerperal Pyrexia                      | —                              | —       | —      | —       | —        | —        | —        | —        | —        | —        | —        | —          | —                                |
| Puerperal Fever                        | —                              | —       | —      | —       | —        | —        | —        | —        | —        | —        | —        | —          | —                                |
| Pneumonia                              | 10                             | —       | —      | 1       | —        | 1        | —        | 2        | 3        | 1        | 2        | —          | 1                                |
| Whooping Cough                         | 44                             | 2       | 15     | 26      | 1        | —        | —        | —        | —        | —        | —        | —          | —                                |
| Measles                                | 685                            | 29      | 341    | 311     | 1        | 1        | —        | 2        | —        | —        | —        | —          | 2                                |
| Dysentery                              | 1                              | —       | —      | 1       | —        | —        | —        | —        | —        | —        | —        | —          | 1                                |
| Food Poisoning                         | 2                              | —       | —      | —       | —        | —        | —        | 2        | —        | —        | —        | —          | —                                |
| Acute Poliomyelitis                    | 1                              | —       | 1      | —       | —        | —        | —        | —        | —        | —        | —        | —          | —                                |
| TOTALS                                 | 776                            | 32      | 361    | 347     | 6        | 5        | 1        | 9        | 6        | 5        | 2        | 2          | 5                                |

## Analysis and Notes on the Incidence of Infectious Diseases

**Smallpox.** No case was notified during the year.

### Scarlet Fever

14 cases were notified compared with 52 in 1958. This disease has lost much of its past malignant significance, attributable in part, no doubt to antibiotics and also possibly to the lessening in virulence of the offending bacillus.

### Diphtheria

No case has now been reported in the District for 9 years. This is a highly satisfactory state of affairs but will only continue if *all* children receive immunization in the first six years of life especially during early infancy. Complacency must, at all costs, be avoided.

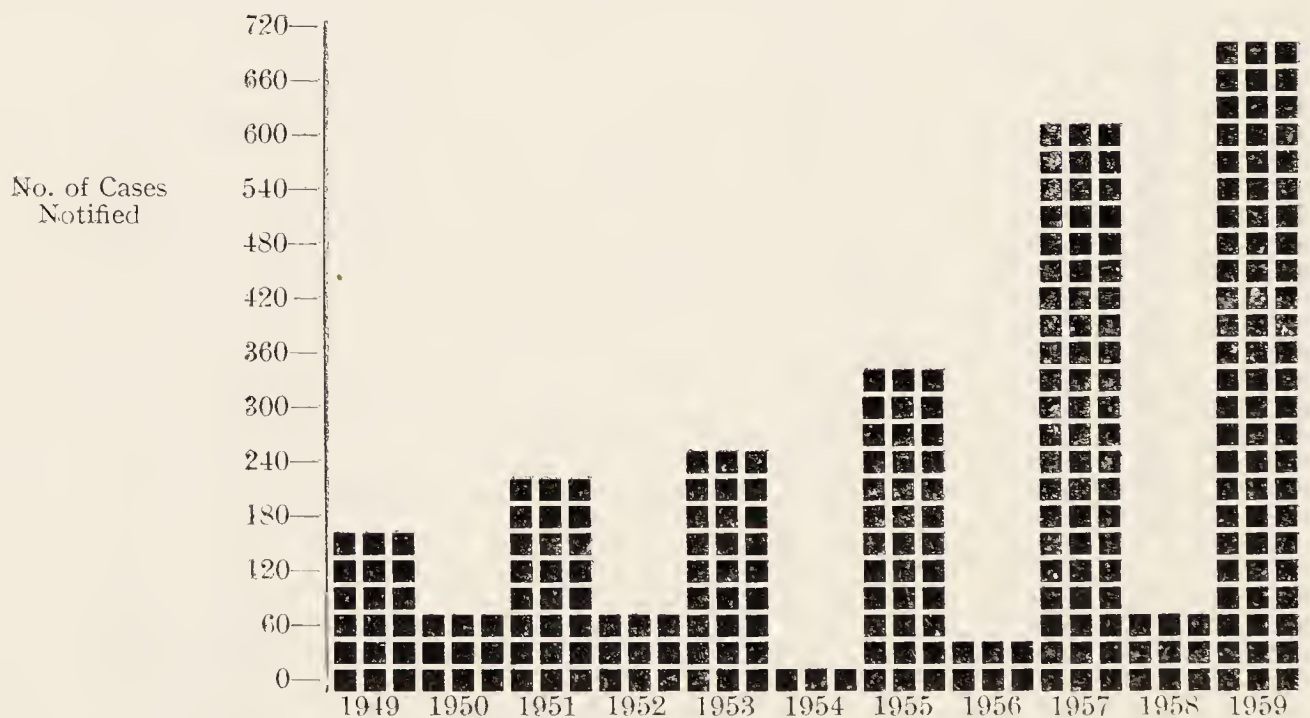
**Food Poisoning.** 2 cases of food poisoning arose during the year.

**Enteric Fever.** No case occurred.

### Measles

685 cases were notified as compared with 41 in 1958. 1 death occurred under this category.

The number of notifications of measles during the period 1949—1959 inclusive is shown in the following table :



It is noted that there is a typical biennial periodicity in the incidence of measles. This occurs probably after each epidemic large numbers of children are rendered immune. As time progresses more and more children (non-immune) enter the community and, as



soon as a critical point has been reached, an epidemic occurs. This apparently is every two years, but is obviously dependent on the birth rate and the degree of mixing of the population (in this case children). In the World War II, for example, London school-children failed to exhibit this periodicity due to an artificial degree of mixing, i.e. the “Evacuation.” As soon as the war ended, however, the periodicity returned.

### Whooping Cough

44 cases were notified against 17 in 1958. No death has occurred.

**Encephalitis Lethargica.** No case has occurred.

### Influenza and Pneumonia

During the year 10 cases of pneumonia were notified compared with none in 1958.

### Tuberculosis

At the end of the year there remained on the register 318 persons. These were composed of :

- (a) Pulmonary Tuberculosis      141 Males      138 Females
- (b) Other forms of Tuberculosis   15 Males      24 Females

I append below a table showing the occurrence of new cases and mortality during 1959.

14 cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified during the year also two other forms of Tuberculosis. 8 of the Pulmonary cases were admitted to Sanitoria.

**TUBERCULOSIS**  
**New Cases and Mortality during 1959**

| AGE PERIODS<br>YEARS | NEW CASES |    |           |    | DEATHS |    |           |    |
|----------------------|-----------|----|-----------|----|--------|----|-----------|----|
|                      | Pul.      |    | Non. Pul. |    | Pul.   |    | Non. Pul. |    |
|                      | M.        | F. | M.        | F. | M.     | F. | M.        | F. |
| 0 to 1 .....         | —         | —  | —         | —  | —      | —  | —         | —  |
| 1 to 5 .....         | —         | —  | —         | —  | —      | —  | —         | —  |
| 5 to 10 .....        | —         | 2  | —         | —  | —      | —  | —         | —  |
| 10 to 15 .....       | —         | —  | —         | —  | —      | —  | —         | —  |
| 15 to 20 .....       | 1         | 1  | —         | 1  | —      | —  | —         | —  |
| 20 to 25 .....       | —         | 1  | —         | —  | —      | —  | —         | —  |
| 25 to 35 .....       | 1         | 1  | —         | —  | —      | —  | —         | —  |
| 35 to 45 .....       | 2         | 1  | 1         | —  | —      | —  | —         | —  |
| 45 to 55 .....       | 2         | 1  | —         | —  | —      | —  | —         | —  |
| 55 to 65 .....       | —         | —  | —         | —  | —      | —  | —         | —  |
| 65 upwards .....     | 1         | —  | —         | —  | —      | —  | —         | —  |
| TOTALS .....         | 7         | 7  | 1         | 1  | —      | —  | —         | —  |

Cancer

Although Cancer is not generally a notifiable disease and, as yet, it is uncertain as to whether it has an infective element or not, deaths from Cancer are included under this heading, in order that their significance may be compared especially that of carcinoma of the lung and bronchus.

The latter has especial significance and because of the wide-spread implication of the Clean Air Act of 1956, its incidence must be carefully tabulated and studied from the point of its epidemiology.

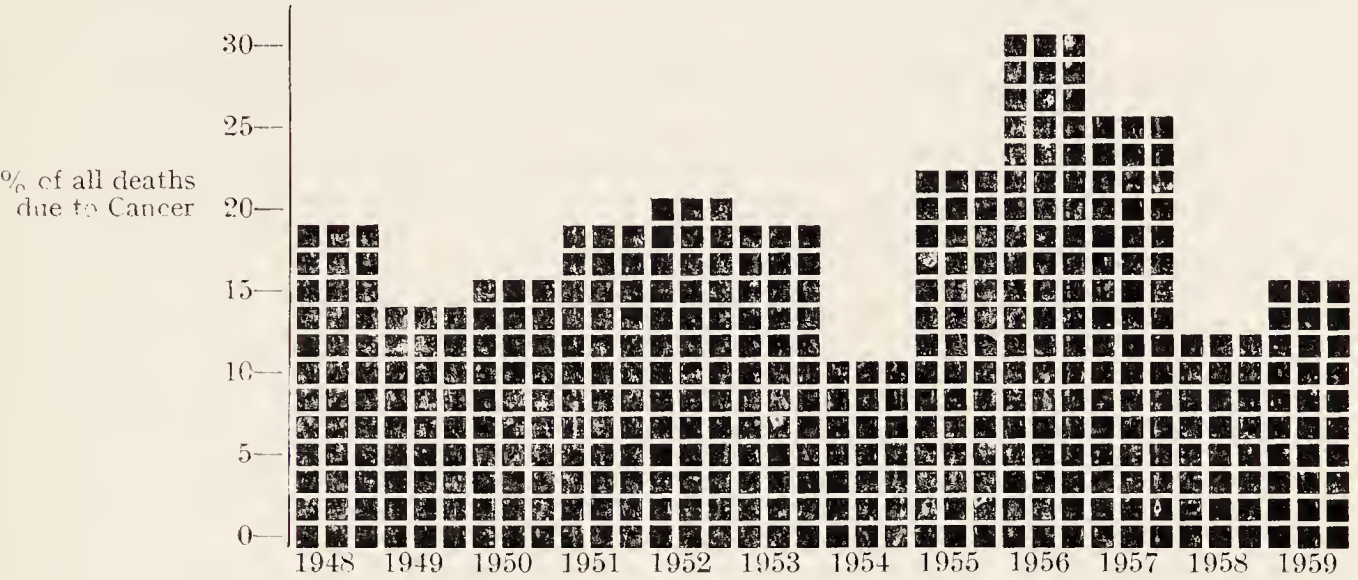
I append below two tables showing :

- (a) Classification of Deaths from Cancer as required by the Regional Cancer Registry (Nos. 140—205 inclusive W.H.O. Classification).
- (b) The percentage of deaths due to carcinoma of the lung and bronchus as compared with deaths from all types of cancer, expressed as a percentage.

(a) Classification of Deaths from Cancer, Wednesfield U.D., 1959

| W.H.O.<br>Class.<br>No. | Type of Neoplasm   | Males | Females | Total |
|-------------------------|--|-------|---------|-------|
| 140-150                 | Buccal Cavity and Pharynx .....  | 0     | 0       | 0     |
| 151                     | Digestive Organs and Peritoneum .....  | 3     | 2       | 5     |
| 162, 163                | Respiratory System .....   | 7     | 2       | 9     |
| 170, 171                | Breast and Genito—Urinary System .....   | 1     | 4       | 5     |
| 174                     | Skin, Eye, Brain and Remainder of<br>Nervous System .....  | 0     | 0       | 0     |
| Ror of<br>140           | Endocrine Glands, Bones and<br>Connective Tissue .....   | 3     | 0       | 3     |
| 204, 205                | The Reticuloses (Hodgkins Disease,<br>Leukaemias, Myelomas, Brill-<br>Symmers Disease, etc. .... | 3     | 0       | 3     |

(b) Deaths due to Carcinoma of Bronchus and Lung, expressed as a Percentage of all Cancer Deaths, Wednesfield U.D., 1948-1949 incl.



It will be remembered that the Clean Air Act was implemented in 1956 and that the Urban District will, in 1960 create smokeless zones in accordance with the requirements of the said Act.

Statistically there is a relationship between atmospheric pollution and cancer of the lungs, and an even more marked relationship with chronic bronchitis.

It is hoped to keep close observation over the numbers of these patients as the implementations proceed forward. It is unfortunate however, that part of the pollution occurs outside the district, and there is no way of assessing the proportional contributions to the district's total pollution.

**SECTION C—THE PERSONAL HEALTH SERVICES**

“Great fleas have lesser fleas,  
Upon their backs to bite 'em,  
And lesser fleas have little fleas,  
and so on ad infinitum.”

*(With apologies to Dean Swift).*

Wednesfield Urban District represents the final level of Local Health Authority Administration in accordance with the provisions laid down in Part 3 of the National Health Service Act, 1946. The Local Health Authority for Wednesfield is Staffordshire County Council within the terms of the above Act.

The County is divided into administrative Health Areas, each with its own Area Health Offices, Committee and Officers.



Wednesfield is a constituent of No. 9 Area (Wednesbury) ; the area Medical Officer being Dr. H. Summers ; the area Health Office being No. 9 Area Health Office, 20, Hydes Road, Wednesbury.

The services provided by Staffordshire County Council are :

1. Maternity and Child Welfare Services.
2. Health Visiting.
3. Midwifery Services.
4. Nursing in the Home.
5. Vaccination and Immunization.
6. Ambulance Service.
7. Care and after-care.
8. Domestic Help.
9. Mental Health Services.

The Local provisions of the above enumerations are as follows :

### **1. Care of Mothers and Young Children**

The Antenatal Clinic and the Infant Welfare Centre are now firmly established in the community and form just as essential part of the social background as the village hall or the Church. It is in these Clinics that the basic application of preventative medicine is maintained especially regarding child health.

The popularity of these Clinics is great : they are no longer regarded as places where baby foods may be purchased or "needles" given, but almost on the footing of Advice Bureaux where a practical solution to many everyday problems may be sought.

Much Public Health propaganda is also deliberately put forward using curiosity and acquisition as aids to " putting it over."

The times of attendance are as follows :

#### INFANT WELFARE CENTRE

Minor ailments :

|                        |                      |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| 9.00 a.m. to 12 noon   | Schoolchildren only. |
| 2.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m. | Every Tuesday.       |

Ante-natal Clinic :

|                        |                             |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 2.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m. | 2nd, 4th Mondays each month |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|

#### WELFARE CLINIC :

Methodist School, Well Lane.



49, OLINTHUS AVENUE :

Ante-natal Clinic :

9.00 a.m. to 12 noon      Every Thursday.

Infant Welfare :

2.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m.      Every Thursday.

Ophthalmological Clinic :

1.30 p.m.      Every Wednesday.  
(By appointment with Eye Specialist only).

37, GUEST AVENUE :

Infant Welfare :

2.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m.      Every Wednesday.

Ante-natal Clinic :

1st, 3rd and 5th Mondays, 2.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m.

## 2. Health Visiting

The District is served by three Health Visitors. Much of the practical domestic aspects of preventative medicine are promoted by them and in addition, they note and report on adverse social conditions in the home.

## 3. Midwifery Services

The policy of the County Council (the Local Health Authority) is to render its midwives mobile within the area of their employment. Wednesbury area has 22 midwives assigned to it.

Towards the end of 1959 the position regarding Wednesfield was acknowledged to be critical ; the establishment of 5 midwives having dwindled to two whole-time and two part-time. Fortunately, however, because of the above policy adequate "cover" was obtained and I wish to extend to the County Council on your behalf our thanks to them for their untiring efforts to improve the situation and also our appreciation of the service rendered by the midwives during this difficult period.

The problem of midwifery staffing is nation-wide and by no means peculiar to Wednesfield or Staffordshire.

Ante-natal Care proceeds under the auspices of Local Health Authority doctors or General Practitioners.

They arrange either domiciliary or hospital confinement in suitable cases and where necessary arrange for Consultant Obstetrician advice and treatment.

#### 4. Nursing in the Home

4 District Nurses serve Wednesfield. Their duties are many and they work in close co-operation with General Practitioners. Treatment is carried out under directions from the Doctor. Nowadays a large part of the District Nurses' time is taken up with general nursing of the chronic elderly sick—I foresee that by the end of the century this problem will have reached large dimensions, due mainly to the increase in span of life.

#### 5. Vaccination and Immunization

I find that a lot of confused thought exists in the terminology of "Vaccination" and "Immunization."

(a) A vaccine is a suspension of DEAD bacteria and viruses.

E.g. Typhoid vaccine ; smallpox vaccine ;  
B.C.G. pertussis vaccine ; poliomyelitis vaccine.

Hence "vaccination" is the inoculation, by some means, of the appropriate suspension into the person's body.

(b) Immunization is a general term which should mean any process whereby a person is rendered immune from a disease. alternatively the term is used by many people to indicate the injection of a PRE-FORMED bacterial or viral poison into a person ; the poisons or "toxins" being so modified as to cause no local reaction or harm but to stimulate the production of protective substances in the patient ("antibodies").

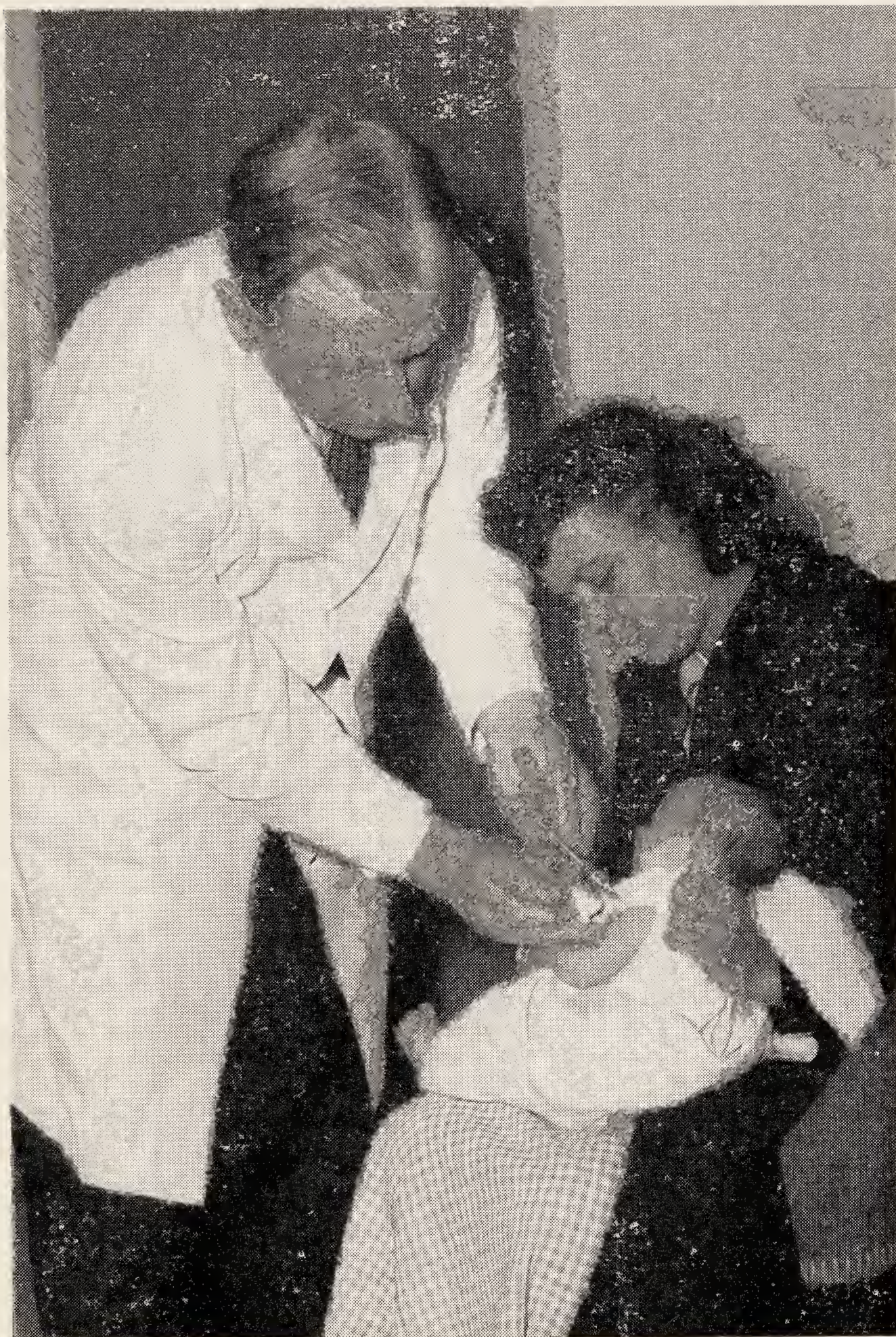
An outstanding example of the use of a toxin is diphtheria. Because of a widespread programme of diphtheria immunization this disease has virtually disappeared from the English scene.

Immunization procedures commence in the Local Health Authorities Clinics, at the age of five weeks. Protection is afforded against Whooping Cough, Diphtheria and Poliomyelitis. The major portions of the child's programme should be complete by the age of 18 months. Adults, expectant mothers, adolescents and schoolchildren are also afforded poliomyelitis vaccination at the Clinics.

The County Council also sends an immunization team to the schools of the Council's Education Committee to afford protection from diphtheria to children at school, thus few children escape the "net."

Smallpox vaccination is performed by the General Practitioners. In a way, I feel that a golden opportunity is being missed by not being able to do this in our own Clinics. Protection against smallpox is by no means 100% in England and Wales now.





*Photograph by kind permission of the  
Health Department, Staffordshire County Council*



B.C.G. (Bacillus Calmette-Guerin) vaccination is afforded by the Chest Physicians to contacts of cases of Tuberculosis. These contacts are usually newly-born children or infants whom have been shown to be tuberculin negative on testing. Tuberculin-negative school leavers are also afforded B.C.G. as well.

## **6. Ambulance Services**

The Ambulance Section is situated at Richards Street, Darlaston, Telephone No. James Bridge 2591/2. A 24 hour service is available.

## **7. Care and After-Care Service**

Care and after-care is undertaken by a social worker and an Area Welfare Officer who operate from Wolverhampton.

Close liaison is maintained with the voluntary agencies especially in the concern for the welfare of the Blind, Deaf and Dumb.

## **8. Domestic Help Service**

This invaluable service is made available under Part III of the Act. Area administration is performed through the Area Medical Officer at the Area Health Office.

The service is particularly valuable in the case of the chronic infirm and elderly sick patients ; mental defective and expectant mothers are also given help.

## **9. Mental Health Service**

The duly authorised Officer is :

Mr. H. C. Whittall. Telephone No. Walsall 4961

The Local Health Authority through the school health service ascertains the ineducable and educationally subnormal school children in the County, hence also in Wednesfield. Special provision is made for these children and there is a special Training Centre at Bilston for ineducable children and a Practical Training Centre at Shepwell Green, Willenhall, for children of higher age groups.

The mental health visitor also plays an important part in the re-habilitation of the mentally ill person for both adult and child, also the psychiatric Social Worker. Unfortunately the latter are as yet, in very short supply.



Other Personal Health Services provided under the National Health Service Act are :

### **Public Health Laboratory Service**

The nearest laboratory under this service is situated at Martin Street, Stafford, under the auspices of the County Pathologist. Bacteriological and serological examinations are carried out at the request of General Practitioners and Public Health Departments.

### **Hospital Services**

There are no hospitals available within the Urban District. I append below, however, a list of hospitals within easy reach of the inhabitants of the District, excepting Kingswinford Isolation Hospital which is about 10 miles distant.

**Infectious Disease** Moxley Isolation Hospital, Wednesbury.  
(This Hospital also receives cases of smallpox).

Kingswinford Isolation Hospital.

**General Cases** Royal Hospital, Wolverhampton.  
(Also a post graduate teaching hospital of the University of Birmingham).

New Cross Hospital, Wolverhampton.  
(Astride the Wolverhampton—Wednesfield Boundary).

General Hospital, Walsall.

Manor Hospital, Walsall.

Eye Infirmary, Wolverhampton.

**Maternity Cases** Manor Hospital, Walsall.

New Cross Hospital, Wolverhampton.

Women's Hospital, Wolverhampton.

## Health Education

Much health education, in its broadest sense takes place, informally at the Clinics and Infant Welfare Centres. Health Visitors carry the scheme into people's homes.

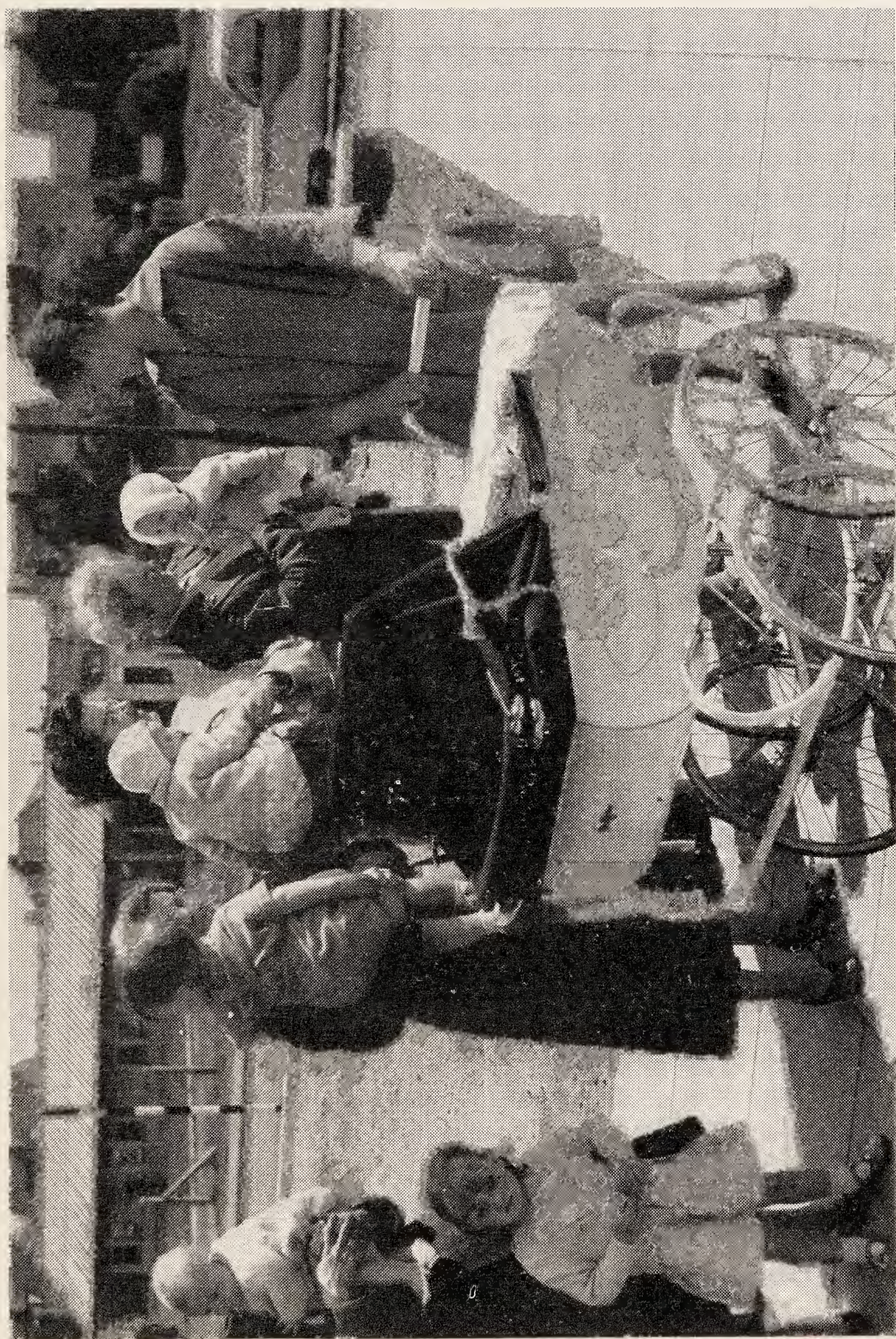
Formal instruction is given in talks and lectures to schools and expectant mothers.

The Central Council for Health Education, via the Area Health Office, is continually supplying valuable visual aid and fosters material advice.

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Finally we end with this photo, it has no particular emphasis or relevance except that such a happy group of people is the end-product of all the Public Health Services, whether environmental or personal.





*Photograph by kind permission of the Health Department, Staffordshire County Council*



## SECTION D—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES

### 1. Water Supply

I am indebted to the Water Engineer, Mr. Brian L. McMillan, B.Sc., M.Inst.C.E., of the Wolverhampton Corporation Water Undertaking for the following report on the water supply to the district for the year ending 31st December, 1959.

#### Sources of Supply

|             |       |  |
|-------------|-------|--|
| RIVER WATER | ..... | River Worfe, Cosford.  |
| BOREHOLES   | ..... | Bore holes at Cosford, Tettenhall, Dimmingsdale, Hilton, Stableford, Bratch and Tomhill Works. |

#### Distributed Water

- (1) The water supply to the area has been satisfactory both in quality and quantity.
- (2) Bacteriological and chemical analyses of the water have proved satisfactory at all stages of supply.
- (3) There is no evidence of plumbosolvent action by the water.
- (4) There has been no known contamination of the distributed water.

### 2. Health in Factories

The returns as required by the Factories Act, 1937 and 1959, are afforded in the Report of the Chief Public Health Inspector.



### 3. Registration of Births and Deaths

The following are the times and places where the District Registrar, Mr. A. V. Tunley, may be seen each week :

|           |       |                          |                              |
|-----------|-------|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| MONDAY    | ..... | 10.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. | Calves Croft,<br>Willenhall. |
|           |       | 2.30 p.m. to 5.00 p.m.   | Hall Street,<br>Bilston.     |
| TUESDAY   | ..... | 10.30 a.m. to 12.30 a.m. | Bilston.                     |
|           |       | 2.30 p.m. to 5.00 p.m.   | Willenhall.                  |
| WEDNESDAY |       | 10.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. | Willenhall.                  |
|           |       | 3.00 p.m. to 5.00 p.m.   | W'field Church<br>Institute. |
| THURSDAY  | ..... | 10.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. | Bilston.                     |
| FRIDAY    | ..... | 10.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. | Willenhall.                  |
|           |       | 2.30 p.m. to 5.00 p.m.   | Bilston.                     |
| SATURDAY  | ..... | 10.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. | Bilston.                     |

### 4. Housing *and*

### 5. Inspection and Supervision of Food and Food Hygiene

Details of these and associated categories of work are found in the report of the Chief Public Health Inspector.

# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

## Chief Public Health Inspector

FOR THE YEAR, 1959

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MR. CHAIRMAN, MRS. WHISTON, GENTLEMEN,

Once again I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report for the year of 1959. Progress has been steady throughout the year and the carry over of work from 1958 was continued in respect to the activities regarding Smoke Control Areas already provisionally approved by the Ministry and following detailed work thereon the presentation of same to Committee resulted in them being approved to come into operation on May 1st, 1960. Much preparation and educational work has been put into the creation of these Smoke Control Areas, the first in the district. Much pioneer work has therefore been undertaken which it is confidently hoped will be a foundation upon which future areas may then continue to be created in accordance with the requirements of the Clean Air Act of 1956.

Conversion of Waste Water Closets continued apace having regard to the modernisation of the Sewage Works now being completed and a greater portion of these conversions were completed by the end of the year to the joy and delight of the occupants and house owners who have appreciated the modern amenity. It is interesting to record that there has been little difficulty experienced in the activity undertaken in this connection, the minor points arising being dealt with by the contractor concerned who gave a three month guarantee against each installation, it being a necessity that the occupier did take reasonable precautions against frost damage. The Treasurer advises me that 99% of the persons concerned have happily paid their apportionment of the costs.

In respect to the Sewage Works, however, it is a striking commentary that further extensions are now required, this, of course, is a direct reflection of the increase of the population at Wednesfield, having regard to the reception of over-spill from the neighbouring County Borough and the fairly extensive private building construction proceeding in the area. A population of 17,422 at the census of 1951 now having risen to 31,550.

Slum Clearance activity has continued in near accord to the pattern agreed in 1954 under Section I of the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, details of which can be studied on subsequent pages of this report. Personal contact being maintained with the people displaced, the Council giving every reasonable consideration to their requirement for alternative accommodation ; again there being no legislation to the Shops Act, activity thereunder, particularly in relation to Mobile Vehicles and Traders, remains as ambiguous as ever.

Activities under Food Hygiene have been maintained in all establishments in the area including Factory Canteens with related services. Much having been accomplished upon a basis of personal approach.

The activity of the Department was mitigated in some respect by the unfortunate illness of Mr. A. L. Morgan during the latter six months of the year.

My thanks to the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Public Health Committee, the Medical Officer and to all who have so ably responded to enable the work of the office to proceed so well.

I remain,

Yours obediently,

P. H. G. GRIMMETT,

*Chief Public Health Inspector.*

# Sanitary Improvements carried out as a result of Inspections and Notices served, both Informal and Statutory

## Dwelling Houses

|  |    |
|--|----|
| Doors, windows, flue openings repaired | 35 |
| Plasterwork repaired .....             | 23 |
| Roofs repaired .....                   | 19 |
| Eaves gutters repaired .....           | 15 |
| Floors repaired .....                  | 14 |
| Chimney heads, flues repaired .....    | 10 |
| Brickwork repaired, repointed .....    | 9  |
| Rising dampness obviated .....         | 5  |
| Sashcords, Fasteners renewed .....     | 4  |
| Firegrates repaired .....              | 4  |
| Stucco work repaired .....             | 3  |
| Hot Water systems repaired .....       | 2  |
| French windows repaired .....          | 2  |
| Yard paving taken up, relaid .....     | 1  |
| Fencing and Gates renewed .....        | 1  |
| Houses partly repainted .....          | 1  |
| Quarry floors relaid .....             | 1  |
| Staircase repaired .....               | 1  |
| Soft water tanks..... .....            | 1  |
| Outbuildings demolished .....          | 1  |
| Back boiler .....                      | 1  |
| Cold water storage tank .....          | 1  |

## Water Closets, Wash-houses, etc.

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| W.C. cisterns renewed .....                       | 8   |
| W.C. pedestals renewed .....                      | 2   |
| W.C. seats provided .....                         | 2   |
| Taps, cocks and water services renewed            | 3   |
| Sink waste pipes renewed .....                    | 2   |
| Soil pipes connections to toilets .....           | 3   |
| W.W.C. closets converted ( <i>Under Sec. 47</i> ) | 112 |
| ( <i>Privately</i> ) .....                        | 8   |



**Drainage**

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| Obstructed drains cleared .....               | 213 |
| Rainwater downpipes repaired or renewed ..... | 9   |
| Inspection chamber covers renewed .....       | 1   |
| Sink Waste gullies renewed .....              | 2   |
| Drainage altered or repaired .....            | 2   |
| Drain surrounds rebuilt .....                 | 1   |
| Soil Pipes connections made good .....        | 3   |
| Rodding eyes relocated, inserted .....        | 62  |
| Sink supports refixed .....                   | 3   |
| New sinks provided .....                      | 1   |

**Letters and Notices sent out**

|                           |     |
|---------------------------|-----|
| Preliminary Notices ..... | 40  |
| Statutory Notices .....   | 8   |
| Letters (all works) ..... | 846 |

**Work in default**

No default action necessary during the year.

**Statutory Notices sent out**

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Section 9, Housing Act, 1957 .....        | 6 |
| Section 16, Housing Act, 1957 .....       | 7 |
| Section 12, Housing Act, 1957 .....       | 1 |
| Section 269, Public Health Act, 1936—     |   |
| Applications .....                        | 4 |
| Licenses granted .....                    | 2 |
| Licenses refused .....                    | 2 |
| Section 39, Public Health Act, 1936 ..... | 2 |
| Section 45, Public Health Act, 1936 ..... | 2 |

**Rent Act, 1957**

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| Applications for Certificates of Disrepair (I)                     | 1   |
| Granted .....  | Nil |
| Refused .....  | 1   |
| Undertakings received .....  | Nil |
| Undertakings accepted .....  | Nil |
| Repairs completed .....  | Nil |
| Certificates of Disrepair issued (L) .....                         | 1   |
| Applications for cancellation .....                                | 2   |
| Objections received .....  | Nil |
| Objections not sustained .....                                     | Nil |
| Applications for Certificates as to Remedying of Defects (O) ..... | 5   |
| Applications granted (P) .....                                     | 4   |
| Repairs completed .....  | 1   |

Although the tempo of activity decreased in the applications for Certificates of Disrepair, I feel that this Ministerial measure has had the desired effect on many property owners and tenants in that a higher standard of fitness, including repainting, provision of gates and fences, has been attained.

It must be borne in mind that the Local Authority act and have acted as intermediaries between landlord and tenant and that many Rent Act Form 'G' applications in themselves have brought about a continued improvement in conditions. Local Authority advice being sought only in cases of difficulty.

Since the commencement of the Act only 4 Certificates of Disrepair remain on properties, there being minor repairs still outstanding to be done, landlords in the main honouring undertakings given.

### **Infectious Diseases, Disinfection and Disinfestation**

18 cases of Infectious Diseases occurred within the district during 1959 and 89 visits were made in this connection, appropriate disinfection being carried out upon removal to hospital or termination of infective period. In all 105 sprayings were carried out including 6 after T.B. removal, 33 for woodworm, 16 for ants, 4 for bugs and fleas, 17 for crickets and 37 other sprayings. A continuing complaint of crickets resulted from the dismantling of spoilbanks whilst housing development was taking place on the Ashmore Park Estate, a number of complaints being received from adjacent properties. Power blower spraying has been carried out regularly in the area and has been very successful.

### **Poliomyelitis**

One case of Paralytic Poliomyelitis occurred within the Urban District during the year. The Medical Practitioner first suspected Poliomyelitis on the Saturday, the 4 year old boy complaining of pains in the back of the neck and developing a mild weakness in one leg.

Epidemiological investigation revealed no known source of infection and as a precautionary measure a batch of vaccine similar to that which was administered to the boy 14 days earlier was submitted for checking by the laboratory after the case was confirmed on the Monday following. The vaccine was declared satisfactory on analysis, and vaccinations and revaccinations continued after this temporary halt.

The tragic death of Jeff Hall, Birmingham City F.C. full back, in the early part of the year, brought about an increase in applications for vaccination, your Health Department following up two primary contacts of the young sportsman who resided within the District.

**Public Health Act, 1936, Section 154**

Observations were maintained on rag and bone merchants moving in your district, in regard to exchanging articles with children under 14. In no case was an offence noted.

**Water Sampling**

8 well water samples taken during the year revealed a satisfactory return, these being deep wells still in operation on the Sandpits area and farm cottages on the Rural aspect of the Northern side of the district.

**HOUSING ACT, 1957**

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**Section 9**

|                      |       |       |       |       |   |
|----------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|---|
| Notices served       | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 6 |
| Outstanding 31.12.59 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1 |

**Section 10** No default action.

**Section 76—Overcrowding**

35 visits were made in this connection and overcrowding is now almost non-existent in this area. Coloured people occupy some 17 houses in this district. 2 houses and some 5 coloured peoples' houses being statutorily overcrowded at 31.12.59.

**REPORT ON SLUM CLEARANCE ACTIVITY**

**With Particular Reference to Future Housing Need**

Following the passing of the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, and further to the official Ministry Circular dated 6th September, 1955 your agreed Slum Clearance Programme return was made to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government under Section 1 of the Act indicating step by step how Wednesfield's sub-standard houses were to be dealt with.

Five hundred and eighty-eight properties were included in your Section 1 return and to date the following 303 properties remain to be dealt with summarily notably those in your Central area. 52 properties were demolished during the year.



| Individual Unfit Demolition Property | .....   | ..... | ..... | ..... | Total 38 |
|--------------------------------------|---|-------|-------|-------|----------|
|                                      | <i>Schedule for Action</i>  |       |       |       |          |
| "Glenview," Noose Lane               | This year (1960) subject to inspection  |       |       |       |          |
| 1, Noose Lane                        | "   | "     | "     | "     |          |
| 167, 169, Blackhalve Lane            | "   | "     | "     | "     |          |
| "Rose Cottage," "Brooklands,"        | "   | "     | "     | "     |          |
| "Woodcote," "Mt. Pleasant"           | "   | "     | "     | "     |          |
| "Grassmere," Watery Lane             | "   | "     | "     | "     |          |
| 197, Blackhalve Lane                 | By agreement—tenant being re-housed as and when accommodation is available. This year (1960). |       |       |       |          |
| 15, Blackhalve Lane                  |   |       |       |       |          |
| "Meadow View," "George," and         |   |       |       |       |          |
| Trentham Cottage, Sandpits           | This year (1960) subject to re-inspection   |       |       |       |          |
| 65, Blackhalve Lane                  | May be excluded, house improved, but subject to action (1960)                                 |       |       |       |          |
| Inglenook, Linthouse Lane            | This year (1960)  |       |       |       |          |
| Ashmore Park Farm Cottages 1 and 2   | This year (1960)  |       |       |       |          |
| 67, 69, 71, Lichfield Road           | This year (1960) subject to re-inspection   |       |       |       |          |
| "Church View," Duke Street           | "   | "     | "     | "     |          |
| "Glenhurst," Duke Street             | "   | "     | "     | "     |          |
| 1, 2, 7, 8, Duke Street              | "   | "     | "     | "     |          |
| Wood Hayes Farm                      | "   | "     | "     | "     |          |
| Cottage, Bellamy Lane                | "   | "     | "     | "     |          |
| Evans Bungalow, Moat House Lane      | "   | "     | "     | "     |          |
| 449, 451, Lichfield Road             | "   | "     | "     | "     |          |
| Lyndhurst Cottages, Fibbersley       | "   | "     | "     | "     |          |
| 1 and 2 Bungalows, Fibbersley        | "   | "     | "     | "     |          |
| 172, 174, Wood End Road              | "   | "     | "     | "     |          |
| Castlebridge Canal Cottage           | "   | "     | "     | "     |          |

| <i>Clearance Areas, Proposed Area</i> | <i>No. of Houses</i> | .....                                      | ..... | Total 42 |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------|--|-------|----------|
| Wednesfield (Hadley's Fold)           | Shop and 3 houses    | Subject to T.C. re-development.            |       |          |
| „ (Wood End No. 6)                    | 14                   | This year (1960) subject to re-inspection. |       |          |
| „ (Lichfield Road No. 3)              | 25                   | This year (1960) subject to re-inspection. |       |          |

| <i>Other Premises involved</i> | <i>Houses involved</i> | <i>Houses considered unfit</i> |
|--------------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------|
| North Street                   | 63                     | 24                             |
| New Street                     | 59                     | 49                             |
| Wolverhampton Road             | 16                     | 16                             |
| Charles Street                 | 9                      | 9                              |
| Hickman Street                 | 32                     | 32                             |
| Graiseley Lane                 | 29                     | 25                             |
| Cross Street                   | 15                     | 13                             |
|                                | 223                    | 168                            |

From this you will see that the tempo of activity has been maintained throughout the year on the Individual Unfit properties (7 represented) and Clearance Areas (39 represented and 16 from the Hickman Street/North Street area.



The Clearance Area programme has been forwarded to meet the processes of negotiation prior to submission and yet keep abreast of the requirement to your Section I return and as can be seen from the following table, all approved Clearance or Compulsory Purchase Orders have been satisfactorily resolved from the displacement and demolition point of view.

| Clearance and Compulsory Purchase Orders          |                  |                 |               |                              |                   |
|---|------------------|-----------------|---------------|------------------------------|-------------------|
| <i>Order</i>                                      | <i>Submitted</i> | <i>Approved</i> | <i>Houses</i> | <i>Persons<br/>Displaced</i> | <i>Demolished</i> |
| Rookery Street No. 1<br>Clearance Area            | 1954E            | 1955            | 14            | 1955                         | 1955              |
| March End No. 1<br>Clearance Order                | 1954E            | 1955            | 10            | 1955                         | 1956              |
| March End No. 2<br>Clearance Order                | 1954E            | 1955            | 3             | 1955                         | 1956              |
| High Street No. 1<br>Compulsory Purchase<br>Order | 1954E            | 1955            | 9             | 1955                         | 1956              |
| Wood End No. 1<br>Clearance Order                 | 1955E            | 1956            | 3             | 1956                         | 1956              |
| Wood End No. 2<br>Clearance Order                 | 1955             | 1956            | 7             | 1956                         | 1956              |
| Cross Street<br>Compulsory Purchase<br>Order      | 1955             | 1956            | 8             | 1956                         | 1956              |
| Wood End No. 3<br>Clearance Order                 | 1955E            | 1957            | 14            | 1959                         | 90% dem.          |
| Wood End No. 4<br>Clearance Order                 | 1956E            | 1957            | 9             | 1957                         | 85% dem.          |
| Rookery Street No. 2<br>Clearance Order           | 1956             | 1957            | 4             | 1957                         | 1959              |
| Rookery Street No. 3<br>Clearance Order           | 1956             | 1957            | 3             | 1957                         | 1958              |
| Lichfield Road No. 1<br>Clearance Oider           | 1957E            | 1958            | 13            | 1959                         | 20% dem.          |
| Hickman Street<br>Compulsory Purchase<br>Order    | 1957E            | 1959            | 3             | 1959                         | —                 |
| Hall Street<br>Clearance Order                    | 1957             | 1958            | 19            | 1959                         | 1959              |
| Waddens Brook No. 1<br>Clearance Order            | 1958             | 1958            | 3             | 1959                         | 1959              |
| Waddens Brook No. 2<br>Clearance Order            | 1958             | 1958            | 22            | 1959                         | 1959              |
| Waddens Brook No. 3<br>Clearance Order            | 1958             | Negotiation     | 4             | 25% Vac.                     | —                 |
| Taylor Street No. 1<br>Clearance Area             | 1958             | „               | 4             | —                            | —                 |
| Wood End No. 5<br>Clearance Area                  | 1959             | ,               | 14            | —                            | —                 |

## Clearance and Compulsory Purchase Orders—*continued*

|                      |      |             |    |   |   |
|----------------------|------|-------------|----|---|---|
| Moat House Lane      |      |             |    |   |   |
| Clearance Area       | 1959 | Negotiation | 4  | — | — |
| March End No. 3      |      |             |    |   |   |
| Clearance Area       | 1959 | „           | 6  | — | — |
| March End No. 4      |      |             |    |   |   |
| Clearance Area       | 1959 | „           | 8  | — | — |
| Lichfield Road No. 2 |      |             |    |   |   |
| Clearance Area       | 1959 | „           | 5  | — | — |
| Hickman Street No. 2 |      |             |    |   |   |
| Clearance Area       | 1959 | „           | 16 | — | — |

To meet the needs of occupants in your sub-standard houses in areas already represented, approved for demolition and future Slum Clearance activity, the following units of accommodation will need to be available, not taking into account at this juncture individual requirements in accommodation.

|                            | 4BR | 3 BR | 2 BR | Flats | Total |
|----------------------------|-----|------|------|-------|-------|
| <b>Immediate Need</b>      |     |      |      |       |       |
| Approved Demolition Orders |     | 2    | 1    | 4     | 7     |
| Aubmitted Clearance Areas  |     | 6    | 26   | 30    | 62    |
| Hickman StreetjNorth       |     |      |      |       |       |
| Street Area                | 2   | 27   | 104  | 94    | 227   |
| Future Proposals (estim.)  |     | 13   | 39   | 42    | 94    |
| <b>Total Requirements</b>  | 2   | 48   | 170  | 170   | 390   |

These requirements will need to be met in the following manner :

|          |       |       |     |
|----------|-------|-------|-----|
| Mid 1960 | ..... | ..... | 7   |
| 1960-61  |       | ..... | 62  |
| 1961-62  |       | ..... | 94  |
| 1963-65  |       | ..... | 227 |

## Precautions Before Demolition

58 dwellings were thoroughly disinfected, such treatment proving a highly successful prelude to demolition, closure, or removal of tenants.

## FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

### Food Sampling

The following analysis is of milk and food samples taken in the Wednesfield district by Staffordshire County Council.

#### Milk

|                                 |       |       |                       |
|---------------------------------|-------|-------|-----------------------|
| Tuberculin Tested               | ..... | ..... | 1                     |
| Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised) |       |       | 5                     |
| Pasteurised                     | ..... | ..... | 7                     |
| Sterilised                      | ..... | ..... | 1                     |
|                                 |       |       | —                     |
| TOTAL                           | ..... |       | 14 <i>All genuine</i> |
|                                 |       |       | —                     |

## General Foods

|                               |       |    |
|-------------------------------|-------|----|
| Number of samples taken       | ..... | 48 |
| Number of samples genuine     | ..... | 46 |
| Number of samples adulterated |       | 2  |

## Classification of General Foods

|                              |                                |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Lard (2 samples)             | Coffee Eclairs                 |
| Malt Vinegar                 | Full Cream Evaporated Milk     |
| White Pepper                 | (2 samples)                    |
| Mincemeat                    | Cambridge Sausages             |
| Stewed Steak in Gravy        | Stewed Steak                   |
| Cocoa                        | Rich Fruit Cake                |
| Ground Ginger                | Blackcurrant Vitamin 'C' Drink |
| Epsom Salts B.P.             | Irish Stew (2 samples)         |
| Digestive Sweetmeal Biscuits | Scotch Broth                   |
| Pork Sausages containing     | Tiny Scampi                    |
| preservative (6 samples)     | Peach Halves in Syrup          |
| Plain White Flour            | Peeled Plum Tomatoes           |
| Rhubarb in heavy syrup       | Cream and Rice Milk Pudding    |
| (2 samples)                  | Sweetened Grape Fruit Juice    |
| Pineapples Conserve          | Demarara Sugar                 |
| Ground Ginger                | Christmas Pudding              |
| Midget Mint Creams           | Butter Puffs                   |
| Pork and Beef Sausage        | Mince Pies                     |
| containing preservative      |                                |
| Rose Hip Syrup               | Zinc Ointment B.P.             |
| Saccharin Tablets            | Bread Sauce                    |
| Compound Syrup of Figs       | Red Cherries in Sugar Syrup    |

## Particulars of Adulterated Samples

|  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| 53C/R—IRISH STEW—INFORMAL  | } | Whole question of standards for tinned meat referred to the County Councils Association by the Staffordshire County Council. |
| Slightly deficient in meat containing 33.9% instead of not not less than 37.5% |   |  |
| 58 C/T—IRISH STEW—FORMAL   | } |  |
| 19.4% deficient of its proper proportion of meat content                       |   |  |



Food Poisoning

One case of suspected Food Poisoning occurred within the Urban District involving a young man and his wife who had partaken of a re-heated meal. No organisms were isolated from samples taken, although both patients suffered 4 days of excessive purging and vomitting.

A minor outbreak occurred at a local school, 20 schoolchildren and 5 adults being affected with excessive diarrhoea. In this case prompt notification by the Headmistress, herself affected, enabled the department to acquire suspected food and take various faecal samples at the school.

Clostridium Welchii was discovered in the specimen meal and in one faecal sample. The dinner was a set meal of cold meat, salad with mayonnaise, a hot layer cake and custard sweet. It was prepared by a school kitchen in an adjoining authority involving overnight cooling, retention in a refrigerator and removal to fly-proof meatsafe prior to slicing. The whole cold meal was then transported to the satelite schools for consumption.

My colleague in the neighbouring authority carried out all follow-up enquiries with the School Kitchen, full recovery by all patients and a return to normal at the school ensuing within six weeks, the outbreak having occurred the day before the summer vacation.

HYGIENE EFFICIENCY TESTS, 1959

| Samples taken from      | No. taken | No. satisfactory | No. unsatisfactory | % Satisfactory | % unsatisfactory | Colony count |        | Coliform Test |        |
|-------------------------|-----------|------------------|--------------------|----------------|------------------|--------------|--------|---------------|--------|
|                         |           |                  |                    |                |                  | Satis.       | Unsat. | Satis.        | Unsat. |
| Factory Canteens .....  | 6         | 5                | 1                  | 83.34          | 16.66            | 5            | 1      | 5             | 1      |
| Licensed Premises ..... | 62        | 59               | 3                  | 95.16          | 4.84             | 60           | 2      | 59            | 3      |
| Cafes .....             | 6         | 6                | —                  | 100.0          | —                | 6            | —      | 6             | —      |
| School Canteens .....   | 3         | 3                | —                  | 100.0          | —                | 3            | —      | 3             | —      |
| TOTAL .....             | 77        | 73               | 4                  | 94.80          | 5.20             | 74           | 3      | 73            | 4      |

**Licensed Premises**

All the licensed premises within the district have been regularly visited during the year, such visits resulting in 25 Informal Notices the following improvements having been carried out :

|                                      |       |       |       |    |
|--------------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|----|
| Lead sinks replaced                  | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1  |
| Extension of W.C. accommodation      | ..... |       |       | 2  |
| Screening of conveniences.....       | ..... | ..... | ..... | 3  |
| Repair of Toilet Apartments fittings | ..... |       |       | 10 |
| Wash basins provided                 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 5  |
| Limewashing of cellars               | ..... | ..... | ..... | 2  |
| Hot water systems                    | ..... | ..... | ..... | 5  |
| Glass washing machines               | ..... | ..... | ..... | 3  |
| Polythene feed pipes replacements    | ..... |       |       | 3  |
| General Decoration                   | ..... | ..... | ..... | 4  |
| Ventilator and Lighting to W.C's.    | ..... |       |       | 4  |
| Drainage repair                      | ..... | ..... | ..... | 8  |

Only one notice was outstanding at the end of the year, which was in relation to the installation of hot water system at an off-licence.

**Mobile Vehicles**

Contact has been maintained with all the mobile food sales in the area so far as has been practicable, there being changes and new participants very regularly, the standard of food hygiene in this connection has been improved.

**Housing of Coloured Workers**

Observations have been maintained on the property so occupied and no abnormal difficulty or complaint has arisen in this connection. A floating population of these workers do occasionally create pockets of difficulty which are in the main eradicated without much difficulty.

**Clean Air Act, 1956**

Activity in the implementation of three smoke control areas provisionally approved by the Ministry for operation in the district has continued throughout the year in the distribution of leaflets and the giving of talks to Tenants Association and other interested bodies of people. Area No. 1 includes the major portion of Council buildings comprising of some 12 acres, Area No. 2 is a mid-central

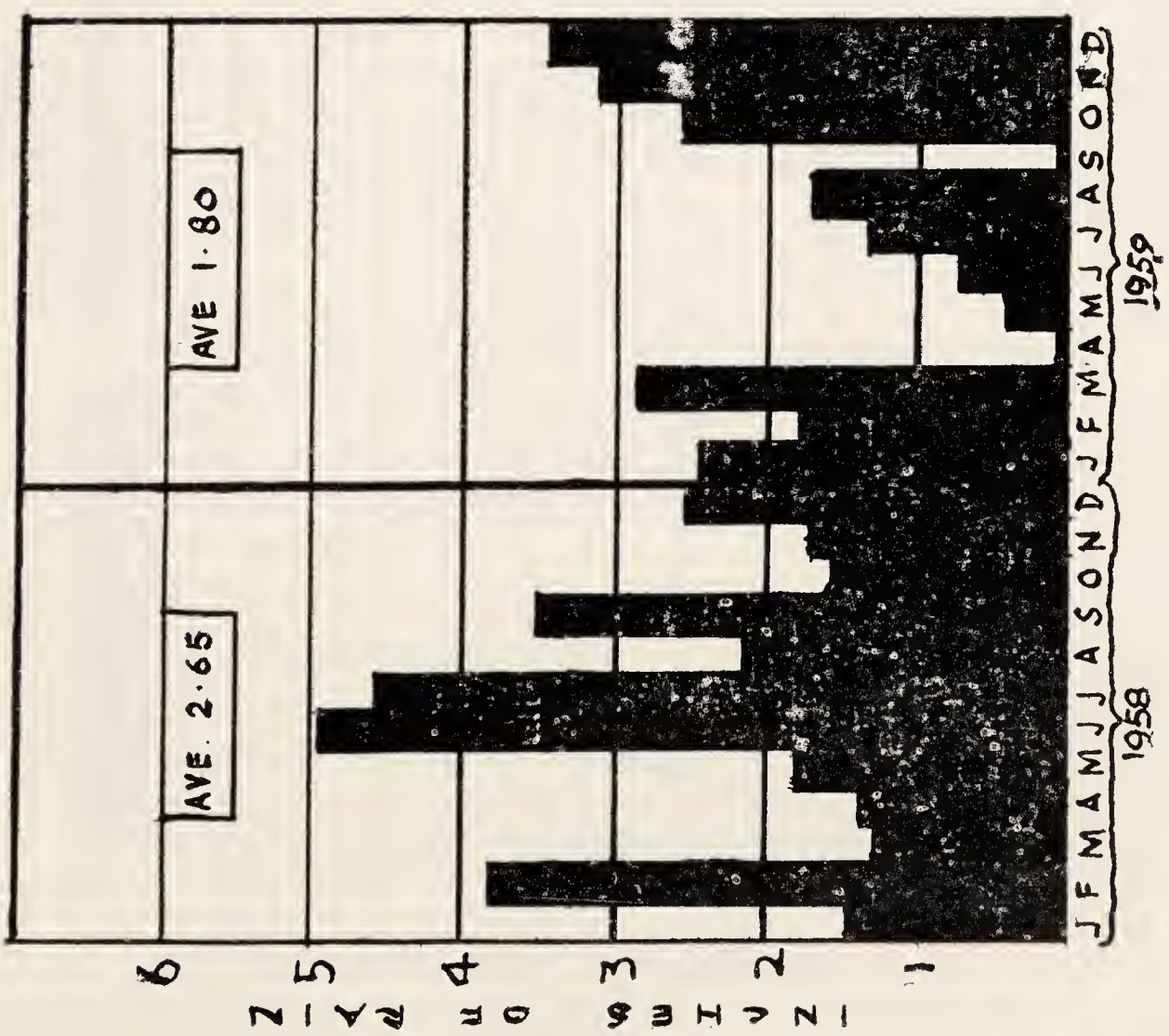
portion of the district on which much education activity is being undertaken in the erection of schools there being a small housing estate in course of construction at the year end, this covers 165 acres. Area No. 3 includes the whole of the Ashmore Park Estate as a neighbouring unit comprising in all when completed of 3,000 units of accommodation and covering some 390 acres in extent, making a total of 567 acres in all, approximately 1/5th of the total area of Wednesfield, a substantial spring board for further activity. The Minister has approved that the Orders come into operation on May the 1st, 1960.

One appreciates the co-operation and help that one has received from interested bodies, in particular from the West Midlands Gas Board with its demonstration vehicle of the burning of solid fuel in open fires. Glancing at the graphs that follow respecting the return of Atmospheric Pollution in the area of Wednesfield over the 12 months of 1959, and let us remember it was a delightful summer, it will be noticed that there was a marked reduction during the summer months of both soluble and insoluble deposits and it will be noted that the Temperature Chart does indeed accord with the rise and fall of the deposit graphs which is indicative of the fact that household contribution to the pollution of the atmosphere is of more serious consequence than has been hitherto accepted or in fact many would wish to accept even today. The further implementation of Smoke Control Areas will, I feel sure, have a marked effect on the recorded deposits of the future.

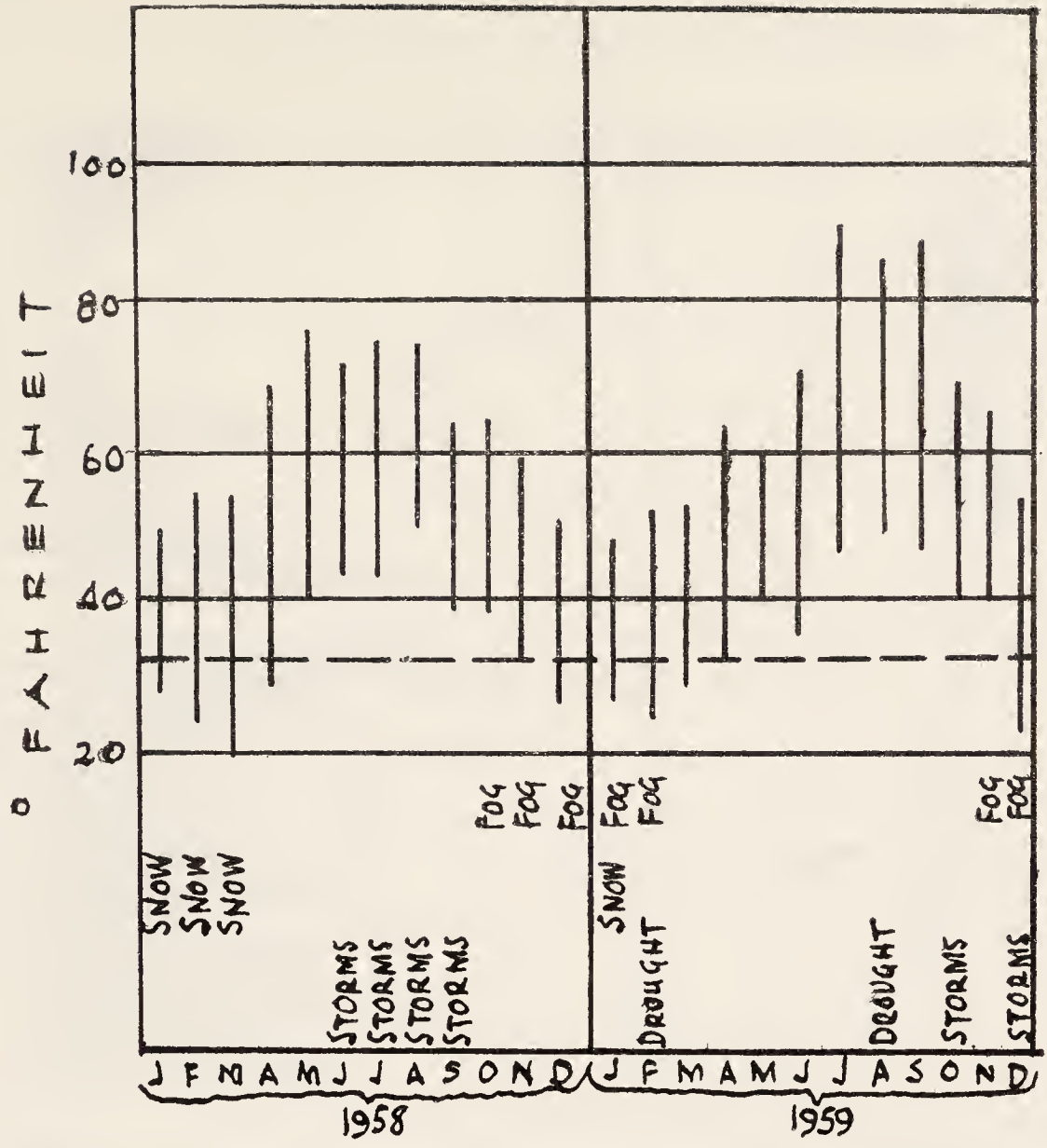
In connection with the implementation of Smoke Control Areas I would re-iterate what I said at the annual conference of the Association of Public Health Inspectors at Margate that the Minister of Housing and Local Government as Chairman of the Clean Air Council should take a more positive approach to the question of miners concessionary coal and ensure that such workers are absolved of personal anxiety and trouble in the changeover required by the creation of smoke control areas and the need to burn smokeless fuel. I remain convinced that this can be accomplished within the present price structure laid down for concessionary supplies without either party losing financially.



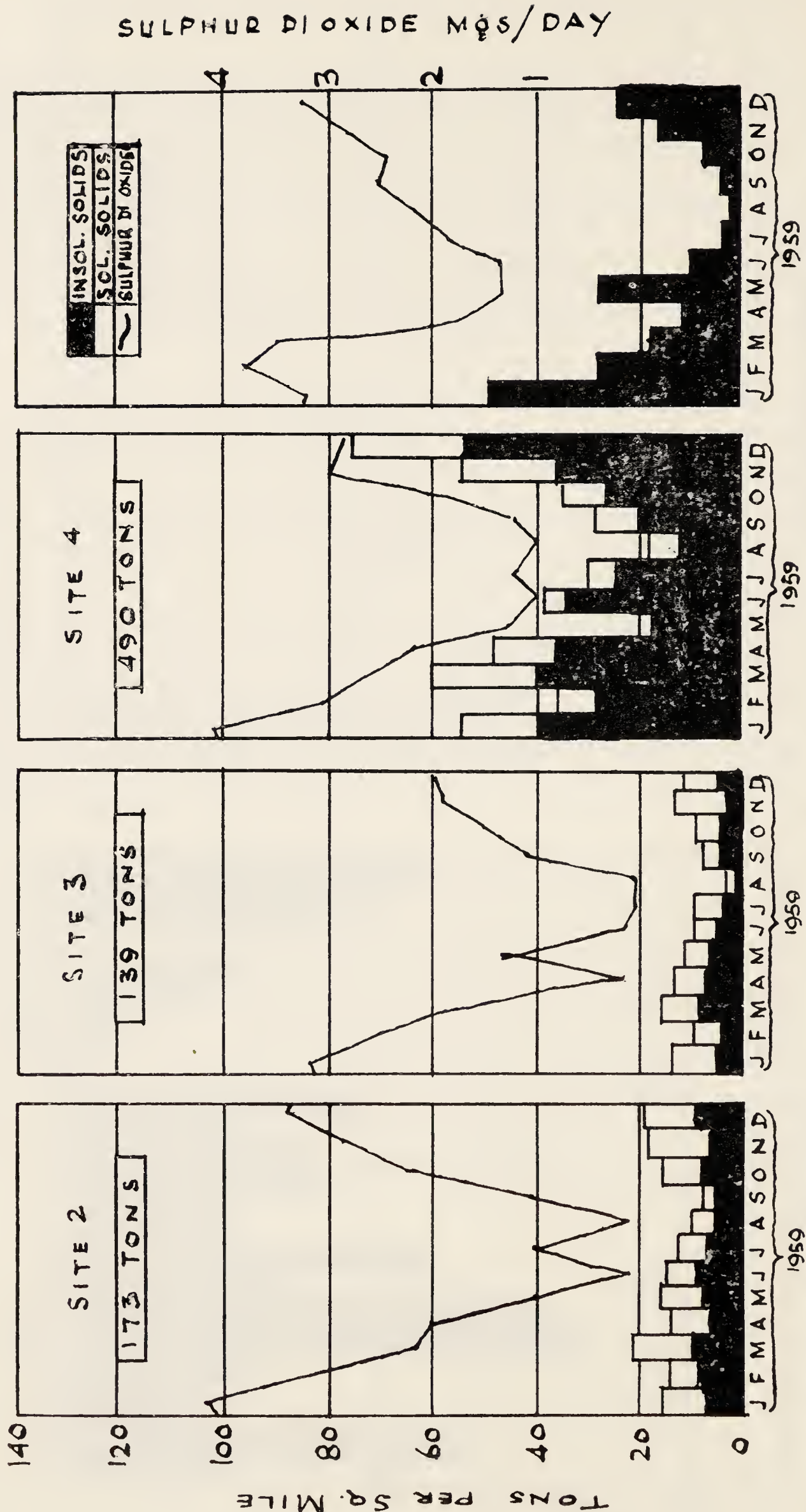
# RAINFALL



# WEATHER CONDITIONS



# ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION 1959



## Types of Food Shops in the Urban District

|                          |       |       |       |       |    |
|--------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|----|
| Grocers                  | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 74 |
| Greengrocers             | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 39 |
| Butchers                 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 25 |
| Sweets and Confectionery | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 6  |
| Cafes                    | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 5  |
| Fish and Chip Saloons    | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 6  |
| Fishmongery              | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 8  |
| Off-Licences             | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 4  |
| Chemists                 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 5  |
| Bakery                   | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1  |

## Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955

Since the coming into operation of the above regulations, periodic inspections have been made to the 173 food shops in the district and I am pleased to report that the general standard remains high.

There have been some 7 new food shops erected or opened during this year and some 8 such premises have been closed or have changed to other uses more adaptable for the type of property. Drapery and Millinery seems to have been a popular choice in preference to greengrocery, sweets and tobacco and confectionery. The demands made on the smaller food shopkeeper to maintain continued improvement in Hygiene Standards laid down by the above Act, though very necessary, have caused a re-adjustment of approach by the retailer when his property happens to be one upon which Local Authority action under the Housing Acts is envisaged.

Improvements carried out under notice include :

|   |    |
|---|----|
| Replacement of Equipment (Reg. 6/7/8)   | 8  |
| Counters, Trays relined                 | 22 |
| Improved Sanitation (Reg. 14)           | 5  |
| H.W. provided or repaired (Reg. 15)     | 38 |
| Wash hand basins renewed (Reg. 16)      | 11 |
| First Aid (Reg. 17)                     | 31 |
| Clothes lockers provided (Reg. 18)      | 19 |
| Separate sinks (Reg. 19)                | 3  |
| Floors recovered, walls tiles (Reg. 23) | 18 |
| Refrigerated Displays (Reg. 25)         | 28 |
| Mobile vehicles named (Reg. 26/28)      | 8  |
| General renovation and repair           | 3  |



In all 5 smoking offences were discovered and 3 offences in relation to personal cleanliness resulted in formal warnings and in no case was a further contravention discovered.

New shops continued to acknowledge the meaning of Food Hygiene and conform without much difficulty, in such cases Education of the Individual plays an important role in ensuring that such facilities provided are made full use of at all times.

### **Meat Inspection**

Once again as in 1958 a 100% Meat Inspection was maintained despite certain staff difficulties towards the end of the year. One slaughterhouse was not relicensed and the remaining two slaughterhouses were relicensed until October 1960, bearing in mind the impact of the Slaughterhouse Reports (Appointed Day) Order, 1959 and Slaughterhouse (Reports) Direction, 1959, which considerations were well under way at the year end.

The incidence of Tuberculosis in Cattle showed a slight increase but still below the National average. Some  $12\frac{1}{2}$  cwts. of meat was condemned as unfit for consumption, 8 sheep carcasses being condemned as a result of oedema and emaciation. No cystercosis was discovered.

Meat Inspection

Cattle—No. of carcasses inspected ..... 82

| DISEASES                 | Carcas-<br>es      | Head | Lungs | Liver | Heart | Kid-<br>neys | Spleen | Intest-<br>ines | Other |
|--------------------------|--------------------|------|-------|-------|-------|--------------|--------|-----------------|-------|
| Tuberculosis .....       | Fore $\frac{1}{4}$ | 3    | 2     | 1     | —     | 1            | 1      | —               | —     |
| Fascioliasis .....       | —                  | —    | —     | 3     | —     | —            | —      | —               | —     |
| Pericarditis .....       | —                  | —    | —     | —     | 1     | —            | —      | —               | —     |
| Angiomatosis .....       | —                  | —    | —     | 2     | —     | —            | —      | —               | —     |
| Cirrhosis .....          | —                  | —    | —     | 2     | —     | —            | —      | —               | —     |
| Pleurisy .....           | —                  | —    | 3     | —     | —     | —            | —      | —               | —     |
| Abscesses .....          | —                  | —    | 1     | 2     | —     | —            | —      | —               | —     |
| Presternal Calcification | —                  | —    | —     | —     | —     | —            | —      | —               | Udder |
| Brisket                  | —                  | —    | —     | —     | —     | —            | —      | —               | —     |
| Mastitis .....           | —                  | —    | —     | —     | —     | —            | —      | —               | —     |
| Peritonitis .....        | —                  | —    | —     | —     | —     | —            | —      | —               | —     |
| Atrophy, Oedema .....    | —                  | —    | —     | —     | —     | —            | —      | —               | —     |

Pigs—No. of carcasses inspected ..... 122

| DISEASES                | Carcas-<br>es | Head | Lungs | Liver | Heart | Kid-<br>neys | Spleen | Intest-<br>ines | Other |
|-------------------------|---------------|------|-------|-------|-------|--------------|--------|-----------------|-------|
| Tuberculosis .....      | —             | 4    | —     | —     | —     | —            | —      | 1               | —     |
| Pneumonia .....         | —             | —    | 4     | —     | —     | —            | —      | —               | —     |
| Pericarditis .....      | —             | —    | —     | —     | 3     | —            | —      | —               | —     |
| Cirrhosis .....         | —             | —    | —     | 2     | —     | —            | —      | —               | —     |
| Tenuicollis cysts ..... | —             | —    | —     | 1     | —     | —            | —      | —               | —     |
| Ascarides .....         | —             | —    | —     | 3     | —     | —            | —      | —               | —     |
| Pleurisy .....          | —             | —    | 3     | —     | —     | —            | —      | —               | —     |
| Echinococcus .....      | —             | —    | —     | 2     | —     | —            | —      | —               | —     |
| Abnormal odours .....   | Flank         | —    | —     | —     | —     | —            | —      | —               | —     |
| Peritonitis .....       | —             | —    | —     | 2     | —     | —            | —      | —               | —     |
| Arthritis .....         | —             | —    | —     | —     | —     | —            | —      | —               | —     |
| Mastitis .....          | —             | —    | —     | —     | —     | —            | —      | —               | —     |

## Meat Inspection—continued

**Sheep**—No. of carcasses inspected ..... 815

| DISEASES     | Carcas-<br>es | Head | Lungs | Liver | Heart | Kid-<br>neys | Spleen | Intest-<br>ines | Other |
|--------------|---------------|------|-------|-------|-------|--------------|--------|-----------------|-------|
| Muelleriasis | —             | —    | 20    | —     | —     | —            | —      | —               | —     |
| Pneumonia    | —             | —    | 12    | —     | —     | —            | —      | —               | —     |
| Fascioliasis | —             | —    | —     | 10    | —     | —            | —      | —               | —     |
| Pericarditis | —             | —    | —     | —     | 1     | —            | —      | —               | —     |
| Echinococcus | —             | —    | 2     | —     | —     | —            | —      | —               | —     |
| Abscesses    | —             | —    | —     | 12    | —     | —            | —      | —               | —     |
| Bruising     | —             | —    | —     | —     | —     | —            | —      | —               | —     |
| Tenuicollis  | —             | —    | —     | 3     | —     | —            | —      | —               | —     |
| Oedema       | 1             | —    | —     | —     | —     | —            | —      | —               | —     |
| Emaciation   | 7             | —    | —     | —     | —     | —            | —      | —               | —     |

|                                |          |
|--------------------------------|----------|
| Total weight of meat condemned | .....    |
| .....                          | 12 cwts. |
| .....                          | 2qr.     |

|  |       |       |       |
|--|-------|-------|-------|
| <b>Calves—No. of carcasses inspected</b> | ..... | ..... | ..... |
|  | ..... | ..... | ..... |
|  | ..... | ..... | ..... |

To summarise :—

## Tuberculosis.

|                                       |       |      |  |       |       |
|---------------------------------------|-------|------|--|-------|-------|
| <b>tuberculosis.</b>                  |       |      |  |       |       |
| Whole carcasses condemned             | ..... | Nil. | Whole carcass condemned  | ..... | 8     |
| Part carcass or offals                | ..... | 9    | Part carcass or offal condemned                                    | ..... | 82    |
| Percentage of all animals slaughtered | ..... |      | Percentage of all animals slaughtered affected with other diseases | ..... | 8.02% |

## Cysticercosis.

|                          |       |       |      |
|--------------------------|-------|-------|------|
| Whole carcase condemned  | ..... | ..... | Nil. |
| Part carcase or offals   | ..... | ..... | „    |
| Carcase to Refrigeration | ..... | ..... | „    |
| Percentage of cattle     | ..... | ..... | „    |



**Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned  
in whole or in part**

|  | Cattle<br>excluding<br>Cows | Cows | Calves | Sheep<br>and<br>Lambs | Pigs | Horses |
|--|-----------------------------|------|--------|-----------------------|------|--------|
| Number killed .....  | 82                          | Nil  | 3      | 815                   | 122  | —      |
| Number inspected .....   | 82                          | Nil  | 3      | 815                   | 122  | —      |
| <b>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci.</b> Whole carcasses condemned .....                  | —                           | —    | —      | 8                     | —    | —      |
| Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned .....   | 8                           | —    | —      | 59                    | 15   | —      |
| Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticercosis ..... | 9.7%                        | 0%   | 0%     | 7.35%                 | 1.2% | —      |
| <b>Tuberculosis only.</b> Whole carcasses condemned .....  | —                           | —    | —      | —                     | —    | —      |
| Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned .....   | 5                           | —    | —      | —                     | 4    | —      |
| Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis .....                                      | 6.1%                        | 0%   | 0%     | 0%                    | 3.3% | —      |
| <b>Cysticercosis.</b> Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned .....                          | —                           | —    | —      | —                     | —    | —      |
| Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration .....   | —                           | —    | —      | —                     | —    | —      |
| Generalised and totally condemned .....  | —                           | —    | —      | —                     | —    | —      |

**Milk (Special Designations) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949**

|                               |                   |   |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|---|
| Supplementary Licences issued | Tuberculin Tested | 5 |
| Dealers Licences issued       | Tuberculin Tested | 3 |

**Milk (Special Designations) (Pasteurised and Sterilized Milk) Regulations, 1949**

|                               |             |    |
|-------------------------------|-------------|----|
| Supplementary Licences issued | Pasteurised | 5  |
|                               | Sterilized  | 5  |
| Retail shops licensed         | Pasteurised | 7  |
|                               | Sterilized  | 52 |

Food Inspection

During the course of the year the undermentioned items of food have been condemned as unfit for human consumption :

|                     |                |   |
|---------------------|----------------|---|
| Slab Cheese         | 16 lbs.        | Mould and Infestation                     |
| Tinned Corned Beef  | 14 lbs. 8 ozs. | Blown and Decomposition                   |
| „ Peas              | 3 lbs.         | Blown and Leaking                         |
| „ Pineapple         | 3 lbs.         | Blown                                     |
| „ Grapefruit        | 1 lb. 15 ozs.  | Blown                                     |
| „ Tomatoes          | 6 lbs. 10 ozs. | Leaking                                   |
| „ Oranges           | 1 lb. 6 ozs.   | Blown                                     |
| „ Luncheon Meat     | 12 ozs.        | Blown                                     |
| Boneless Cooked Ham | 73 lbs. 5 ozs. | Putrifaction and Liquefaction of Gelatine |
| Horse Radish Sauce  | 600—3 oz. jars | Soured after long storage                 |

At the beginning of the year the decision was made to make a nominal charge for examining the food surrendered thus annulling the “rubber stamp” effect of the Public Health Inspector. The charge, made under Section 98 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, was determined in the sum of 2s. 6d. per certificate or 10/- a consignment.

A total of 233 lbs. of food was condemned by this procedure as a result of 114 visits in this connection.

Ice Cream

There are no manufacturers of Ice Cream in the district but seven new licences were issued during the year, in all the proviso being made that a wrapped commodity only may be sold. Hot water geysers were required and provided, 56 premises and 9 mobile vehicles now retail Ice cream. 115 visits were made.

ICE CREAM SAMPLES, 1959

| Samples taken from      | No. taken | No. in Grades |    |     |    | % in Grades |      |      |    |
|-------------------------|-----------|---------------|----|-----|----|-------------|------|------|----|
|                         |           | I             | II | III | IV | I           | II   | III  | IV |
| Shops .....             | 52        | 50            | 1  | 1   | —  | 96.15       | 1.93 | 1.93 | —  |
| Cafes .....             | 10        | 10            | —  | —   | —  | 100.00      | —    | —    | —  |
| Licensed Premises ..... | 10        | 8             | —  | 2   | —  | 80.00       | —    | 20   | —  |
| Cinemas .....           | 3         | 3             | —  | —   | —  | 100.00      | —    | —    | —  |
| Factory Canteens .....  | 3         | 3             | —  | —   | —  | 100.00      | —    | —    | —  |
| Mobile Vehicles         | 11        | 9             | 1  | 1   | —  | 81.82       | 9.09 | 9.09 | —  |
| TOTAL .....             | 89        | 83            | 2  | 4   | —  | 93.26       | 2.25 | 4.5  | —  |

## **Fish and Chip Saloons**

There are now 6 registered saloons in the district. No new licence was granted, 42 visits were made, and one shop closed down.

## **Food and Drugs Act, 1955**

The year has brought its usual incidence affecting food not of the nature, or of the substance, or of the quality demanded. 8 such cases were reported resulting in one warning letter being sent.

## **Layer Cake—Foreign Body**

A layer cake of a well known variety was submitted to the Department for comment. Investigation revealed a knotted substance resembling nylon bristle embedded near the surface of the cake, and of such dimensions to cause choking if ingested. Laboratory analysis confirmed the presence of "Nylon shreds or sisal bristles comparable with those from a broom." The discovery led to a visit to the manufacturers, and during the course of the visit it was possible to ascertain that the bristle was similar to that which tied the flour bags, access being gained presumably via the flour chute to the dough making plant.

## **A Jar of Cockles—Excessive Sediment**

A jar of cockles containing excessive sand in the jar was surrendered to the office, enquiries at the source of manufacture revealing that the circumstances was likely to have occurred by the action of the cockles in their cleansing process.

## **A Loaf of Bread**

A 4 lb. Loaf of bread containing a grease smudge under the crust was rechecked to the bakery concerned. It was thought to have been admitted during the bread making process, a slight accumulation of flour in the air line, which had, at this stage become dislodged and had been blown on to a portion of dough despite the presence of filters.

## **Bag of Sweets**

A "mixed bag" of prepacked variety sweets was surrendered to the office and upon inspection were found to be in a soiled condition. Enquiries regarding manufacture, wrapping wholesale and delivery revealed that a burnt popcorn had been crushed during the process, the fine material adhering to the sticky contents of the prepacked bag of sweets. Suggested improvements to packagings were advised and no further complaint arose.



### **Mixed Pickles**

A jar of mixed pickles containing an insect in the tightly meshed portion of the cauliflower led to investigations at the source of manufacture and packing. It was obvious that all processes at the Company were in the best interests of hygiene, prolonged soakage in vinegar (itself a deterrent to insect life) to dispose of foreign bodies, close scrutiny on packing and general inspection precautions left one at a loss to understand how any contamination could get through. Nevertheless the tightly knit flower of the cauliflower had in this instance failed to surrender its innermost secrets.

### **Bottle of Milk**

A bottle of pasteurised milk containing a cigarette carton was delivered intact, lid tightly sealed, to the Department. Enquiries revealed an excellent standard of hygiene and inspectorial system at the dairy. One can only assume that the customer with the empty milk bottle had in providing the milkman with the next days order, pushed the carton into the bottle and that its passage through the washers and screens had been uninterrupted. The human element is never foolproof but consumers can do a lot to help by desisting from this and many other ill-practices as far as the bottling and delivery of this essential commodity is concerned.

### **Loaf of Bread**

A wrapped 2lb. loaf was found on inspection to contain a larvae of the flour moth in its substance and again personal visitation was made to the bakery concerned and certain recommendations made. The flour storage loft was thoroughly inspected for flour moth activity and the bakery is now entering into contract with the Local Health Authority for frequent examination and treatment.

### **Orange Drink**

A carton of orange drink containing a wasp which was very nearly imbibed by the customer led to a close examination of the manufacturers premises. The drink, after mixing in a large tank, was pasteurised and passed to 500 gallon holding tanks thence to packing machines, being heat sealed in polythene lined containers. The containers were made from rolls in the same machine and subjected to ultraviolet ray treatment. Only one point of access was possible, immediately after the light ray treatment before folding. Atomised air sprays were in frequent use, and, once again, the presence of the wasp was not an indication of slackness but one of those unfortunate happenings which occur even in the best run organisation.

The result of our approach brought about the introduction of pressurised air blower at the vulnerable points where an insect could be likely to enter which should obviate any further difficulty of like nature.

Generally, many may feel that the particular cases recorded above should have warranted prosecution, but I take the view that in this modern age all are concerned that a high standard product of good quality should reach the consumer, and continued co-operation will bring the desired result.

Prosecution forces such matters into the background and activity is then screened from the Inspector. It should be noted that my Health Committee do institute prosecutions where a second case occurs with the same firm who perchance have scorned the advice given.

### Milk and Dairies Acts and Orders

A deposition of glass, crates and bottles on the roadside has continued to receive attention by the Department and Dairies concerned, and, in the main, circumstances have been much improved during the year. Excellent co-operation has been obtained during the year in the removal of school milk bottles during holiday periods.

### Mortuary

During the year a total of 32 bodies have been admitted to the Council's Mortuary and post mortem results revealed the following causes of death :

|                              |       |       |       |    |
|------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|----|
| Coronary Thrombosis          | ..... | ..... | ..... | 14 |
| Heart Failure                | ..... | ..... | ..... | 4  |
| Multiple Injuries (accident) |       | ..... | ..... | 4  |
| Gas Poisoning (Suicide)      | ..... | ..... | ..... | 2  |
| Cancer                       | ..... | ..... | ..... | 2  |
| Cerebral Haemmorrhage        | ..... | ..... | ..... | 2  |
| Multiple Injuries (Murder)   |       | ..... | ..... | 1  |
| Pneumonia                    | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1  |
| Asphyxia                     | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1  |
| Drowning                     | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1  |

## **Housing of Coloured Workers**

Little difficulty has arisen during the year in regard to the coloured population of Wednesfield, which population remains much the same, as there are many that come and many that go in a transference of occupation and residence, and as time goes on they appear to be becoming more integrated into the general life of Britain and are gradually realising the import and aspect of the laws which have to be complied with concerning their living and working in this country.

## **Smoke Abatement**

As will be seen from the graphs, the pollution is still on a downward trend, and it is indeed a pleasure to draw attention to this. Activity is continuing in the matter of smoke control areas and three such areas were provisionally approved and in the detailed investigations being undertaken together with propaganda and education in regard to the implementation of such areas. Talks have been given to Tenants' Associations and to bodies who have expressed an interest in the matter and generally speaking, immediate problems that arise have been met and answered to ensure that there is an immediate and ready response to any difficulty which might arise within the orbit of a Smoke Control Area, and in all cases ready co-operation has been received by those who have the problem before them. This education continues and later there will be meetings of suppliers of fuel to discuss their aspects of the problem.

## **Pet Animals Act, 1951**

One premise remains licensed in this connection, conditions being maintained very satisfactory. 5 visits were made.

## **Registration of Old Metal Dealers. Public Health Amendments Act, 1907—Section 86**

Four dealers are registered under this section and operate in the district, surveillance having been maintained throughout the year, in full co-operation with the local Police Inspector. 25 visits were made.

## **Public Health Act, 1936. Section 269. Tents, Vans, Sheds and Caravans**

Four applications to site caravans and two applications to use land for stationing a caravan were dealt with during the year.



One application to use land and station a van thereon was approved for an indefinite period prior to the elderly resident being being offered old peoples accommodation. One other application was approved for a period of six weeks only being used by a contractor for one of his employees. The remaining applications were dealt with by the Town Planning at the close of the year.

Including those paid to Gypsy encampments a total of 52 visits were made during the year.

### **Gypsies**

Several excursions were made into the district during the year and in two instances it was necessary to forcibly eject the caravaners failing co-operation on their part in moving.

One site was closed during the year by the insertion of 4' 6" concrete fence posts by the land owner concerned and I am able to say this has had the desired effect.

### **Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949**

The tempo of activity under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act has speeded up throughout the year, there being more definite control now on premises other than domestic dwellings, 10 schools, 12 factories, a new school site, bakery and slaughterhouse all receiving specialised treatments throughout the year. An income of £150. 0s. 0d. accrued from such treatments.

Two sewer treatments were carried out, both with excellent results and general speaking, the Wednesfield district remains clear of serious infestation.

The following tables give details of activity undertaken.

# PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

Report for period 1st January to 31st December, 1959.

## 1. PREVALENCE OF RATS AND MICE

|                                    | Total<br>(i) | Number of Properties in Local<br>Authority's Area in which<br>Infestation was |                                  |  | Analysis of<br>Column (iv) |               |                       |  |
|------------------------------------|--------------|---|----------------------------------|--|----------------------------|---------------|-----------------------|--|
|                                    |              | Notified<br>by<br>Occupier<br>(ii)  | Otherwise<br>discovered<br>(iii) | Recorded<br>Total of<br>(ii) & (iii)<br>(iv) | Number infested by         |               |                       |  |
|                                    |              |   |                                  |  | Rats                       |               | Mice<br>only<br>(vii) |  |
|                                    |              |   |                                  |  | Major<br>(v)               | Minor<br>(vi) |                       |  |
| Local Authority's Property         | 6            | 2   | —                                | 2  | 1                          | —             | 1                     |  |
| Dwelling House ( <i>Estimate</i> ) | 5,000        | 195   | 64                               | 259  | 42                         | 164           | 53                    |  |
| Business Premises                  | 290          | 21  | 2                                | 23   | 5                          | 6             | 12                    |  |
| Agricultural Property              | 3            | 1   | —                                | 1  | 1                          | —             | —                     |  |
| TOTAL                              | 8,299        | 219   | 66                               | 285  | 49                         | 170           | 66                    |  |

2. MEASURES OF CONTROL BY LOCAL AUTHORITY

|                             | No. of Properties inspected | No. of Inspections made | Number of Notices served under Section 4 |       | Number of Treatments carried out |                     |           | Block treatments of properties in different occupancies under Sect. 6 (1) or by informal arrangement |         |               |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|--|-------|----------------------------------|---------------------|-----------|--|---------|---------------|
|                             |                             |                         |  |       |                                  |                     |           |  |         |               |
|                             |                             |                         | Treatments                               | Works | By arrangement with occupier     | Under Section 5 (1) |           | No. of Blocks  | Surface | Assoc. Sewers |
|                             |                             |                         |  |       |                                  | Rats                | Mice only |  |         |               |
| Local Authority's Property  | 6                           | 32                      | —  | —     | 8                                | —                   | —         | —  | —       | —             |
| Dwelling House .....        | 320                         | 602                     | —  | —     | 702                              | 160                 | —         | 60   | 180     | 146           |
| Business Premises .....     | 122                         | 140                     | —  | 1     | 320                              | 140                 | —         | 4  | 20      | —             |
| Agricultural Property ..... | 2                           | 4                       | —  | —     | 24                               | —                   | —         | —  | —       | —             |
| TOTALS .....                | 450                         | 778                     | —  | 1     | 1,174                            | 300                 | —         | 64   | 200     | 146           |

The estimated kill for the whole 12 months is as follows :—

|                                       |          |          |
|---------------------------------------|----------|----------|
| Business Premises .....               | 66 rats. | 26 mice. |
| Private Dwellings .....               | 360 "    | 152 "    |
| Urban District Council Premises ..... | 75 "     | — "      |

These figures do not include agricultural premises where dismantled ricks would add to the estimated kill.



# INSPECTION OF FACTORIES

## Factories Act 1937

### 1.—INSPECTIONS

for purposes of provisions as to health  
Including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors

| Premises  | Number of             |             |                 |
|---|-----------------------|-------------|-----------------|
|   | Factories on Register | Inspections | Written Notices |
| Factories with mechanical power .....   | 82                    | 72          | 11              |
| Factories without mechanical power  | 24                    | 26          | 2               |
| Other premises under the Act (including works or building and engineering construction but not including outworker's premises). ..... | 20                    | 28          | 3               |
| TOTAL .....   | 126                   | 126         | 16              |

### 2.—DEFECTS FOUND

| PARTICULARS                           | Number of Defects |          |                            | Number of defects in respect of which Prosecutions were instituted |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------|----------|----------------------------|--|
|                                       | Found             | Remedied | Referred to H.M. Inspector |  |
| Want of Cleanliness (S.1.) .....      | —                 | —        | —                          | —  |
| Overcrowding (S.2.) .....             | —                 | —        | —                          | —  |
| Unreasonable temperature (S.3.)       | —                 | —        | —                          | —  |
| Inadequate ventilation (S.4.) .....   | —                 | —        | —                          | —  |
| Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6.) | —                 | —        | —                          | —  |
| Sanitary Conveniences (S.7.)          |                   |          |                            |  |
| (a) insufficient .....                | 4                 | 3        | —                          | —  |
| (b) unsuitable or defective           | 6                 | 6        | —                          | —  |
| (c) not separate for sexes            | 2                 | 2        | —                          | —  |
| TOTAL .....                           | 12                | 11       | —                          | —  |

Outworkers numbered 6, 4 boxmakers, 1 apparel repairer, and 1 jewel setter, all of which were maintained satisfactorily throughout the year.

## Slaughter of Animals Act, 1958

## Prevention of Cruelty Regulations, 1958

9 slaughtermen were licensed in the district. In each case a copy of the above regulations was enclosed. None are licensed to slaughter horses. One application was refused.

## Shops Act, 1950

257 shops are on the register of the Urban District all being satisfactorily maintained against the requirements of the Shops Act, 173 are food shops, the remaining 84 being divided as follows :

|   |    |
|---|----|
| Drapery, Millinery, Haberdashery .....          | 20 |
| Wireless, Cycle, T.V. and Electric Stores ..... | 7  |
| Hairdressing .....                              | 9  |
| Tobacconists .....                              | 1  |
| Newsagents/Tobacco .....                        | 11 |
| Boot and Shoe Repairers .....                   | 9  |
| Hardware and Ironmongery .....                  | 7  |
| Dry Cleaners .....                              | 2  |
| Post Offices .....                              | 4  |
| Watch and Clock Repairers, Jewellery .....      | 1  |
| Corn Stores .....                               | 1  |
| Pet Shop .....                                  | 1  |
| Libraries .....                                 | 3  |
| Gas Appliances .....                            | 1  |
| Garden Tools and Timber.....                    | 1  |
| Toys, Perambulators .....                       | 1  |
| Wallpapers, Paints.....                         | 3  |
| Footwear .....                                  | 1  |
| Outfitters .....                                | 1  |

Certain of the above combine trades under one roof. All were conducted satisfactorily under the Shops Act legislation.

Continual observations have been made in respect to Shops Act legislation as such and no extreme contravention has been observed during the year under review.

## **Population**

Rough figures and estimates are maintained in regard to the estimated population of the district incorporating the influx population as a result of Overspill Building Scheme, and agreement with the County Council and the County Borough of Wolverhampton. I estimate the population of the district at the year end to be 30,174.

## **Factories Act, 1937**

The Table (page 54) reveals that the tempo of activity under this Act has been maintained throughout the year. The variety of trades and new development has taken place in an ordered manner on your Southern area thus keeping Industry in this zone. The general standard remains high, although difficulty is still experienced in the Hickman Street area which is the subject of procedure under the Housing Acts.

## **Public Health Act, 1936—Section 47**

Following the decision of the Local Authority to act under this section for the elimination of this outdated type of toilet, I am pleased to report that this work has been accomplished some 9 months ahead of schedule and at a little over one half of the estimated cost.

Since the inauguration of the scheme 203 waste water closets were converted by action under Section 47, 10 Owner/Occupiers converted their toilets by improvement grant including installation of bathrooms, W.C., wash basins and hot water supply, and 5 were still outstanding at the end of the year, improvement procedure being considered in preference to single conversion.

All work was carried out by the builder who successfully tendered for the first trial batch of conversions and such work was executed in complete liaison with the Department and entirely to my satisfaction. Expressions of appreciation have been received from owners and agents of the properties concerned in addition to the grateful thanks of the tenants themselves indicating their delight at the improved amenity.





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WILLIAM WOOLLEY LTD  
THE ORCHARD  
BILSTON